REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OPIUM DEPARTMENT

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

FOR THE

REVENUE YEAR 1886-87,

WITH

APPENDICES.

Bombay:
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

1888.

[Price—Four Annas.]

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No. 632 OF 1888.

FROM

J. G. MOORE, ESQUIRE, C. S.,
Acting Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and A'bkári;

TO

T. D. MACKENZIE, ESQUIRE, C. S.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department, Bombay.

Camp Mehmudabad, 29th January 1888.

SIR,

INTRODUCTION.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency for the revenue year 1886-87, ending 31st July 1887.

SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION.

2. The revenue derived from opium exported to China and other places beyond British India, is treated in the public accounts as Imperial Revenue, while that derived from opium consumed within the Presidency is treated as Excise Revenue. The Government of India, in their Resolution No. 4417, dated 23rd August 1887, Department of Finance and Commerce (Separate Revenue), have directed that—

"the excise reports should in all cases be prefixed by a concise description (which may be repeated from year to year) of the various systems on which the excise is administered in the province concerned, and the extent to which each system applies."

In accordance with those orders I reproduce below the paragraphs written by my predecessor for the Red Letter Chapters of the General Administration Report of the Bombay Presidency for the year 1882-83. I have supplemented the information therein given with a description of the excise system followed in the several districts of the Presidency.

3. The bulk of the opium imported into Bombay is grown and manufactured in Native States in Málwa and Rájputána; and for its weighment and for the issue of the necessary passes, and the recovery of the pass-fees due thereon, Government have established scales and maintain offices at the following places in Central India and Rájputána, *viz.*, Indore, Ujjain, Ratlam, Dhár, Jowra, Ajmere, Mándesar, Bhopál and Chitor. The five last-named scales were established at a comparatively recent date:—the Ajmere scales in 1877, the Jowra scales in April 1878, the Mándesar and Bhopál scales in 1879-80, and the Chitor scales in 1883-84. Opium scales were established temporarily at Ahmedabad in the latter part of 1857 to meet an emergency arising from the then disturbed state of the country. They have been maintained up to the present day, and are now utilized for the weighment and passing for export, to Bombay, of opium grown in the territory of His Highness the Gáikwár, and for the examination of opium imported from Dongarpur for consumption in Gujarát.

4. Opium passed at the Government scales is packed in chests, each containing 140¼ lbs., or in half chests containing each 70⅛ lbs. avoirdupois. The Railways provide the only routes by which opium can now be imported into Bombay.

5. Previous to 1878 the cultivation of the poppy plant was allowed in a few places in this Presidency, and it is well known

INTRODUCTION.

SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION.

that large quantities of untaxed opium were clandestinely imported from Málwa and Rájputána by various routes. The result was the almost total extinction of the revenue derivable from the local consumption of the drug. The subject engaged the attention of Government for many years, but nothing practical was done in the matter until 1878. A new Opium Act was then passed, and rules regulating the growth of the poppy plant, the manufacture, import, transport, possession, sale and export of opium were framed under it, and at the same time sundry reforms were instituted in the system of management.

6. The manufacture of opium throughout the Presidency has been prohibited, and the importation of opium from Málwa has been restricted to certain specified routes. All consignments of opium imported into the Presidency are subjected on arrival to examination, and its transport from place to place is permitted only under official passes; the wholesale trade in the drug has been entirely separated from the retail trade, and the system of licensing retailers has been improved and altered so as to suit the varied requirements of different districts.

7. The right to retail opium in licensed shops is farmed on either (1) the minimum guaranteed vend system, or (2) the license-fee system. Under the former the licensee guarantees to sell a certain minimum quantity of duty-paid opium per mensem within the limits of the farm, while under the latter the licensee pays to Government a fixed amount for the privilege of sale, in addition to the duty on the opium actually issued to him from the Government depôts for vend at his shops. The farms are sold either by collectorates, tálukás, or shops. The minimum guaranteed vend system is at present in force in the Collectorates of Bombay, Ahmedabad, Kaira, Panch Maháls, Broach, Surat, Thána, Kolába, Násik, Ahmednagar, Poona, Sholápur and Sátára; elsewhere the license-fee system prevails. The right to retail opium does not include the privilege of retailing chandul, madat or other preparations of opium. Separate licenses are granted for the sale of the latter on payment of license fees.

8. Agreements have been taken from all Native Chiefs in the Presidency with a view to secure their co-operation in effectually stopping the contraband traffic in opium. Under these agreements—

1. The cultivation of the poppy has been prohibited in all Native States, *except Baroda.*
2. Baroda has been permitted to grow and manufacture opium under a State monopoly, for consumption in its own territory and for export to China. The State has undertaken to assimilate its opium retail system and selling prices with those for the time being in force in adjoining British districts, and to prevent the introduction of Baroda opium into British territory, and into the territories of adjoining Native States.
3. All other Native States have been required to supply themselves with opium for domestic consumption either from some British depôt, or by direct importation from Málwa under regular passes, and to retail it to their subjects at prices not lower than the retail prices for the time being in force in British districts.
4. All Native Chiefs are bound to exert themselves to prevent the introduction of untaxed opium into their territories.
5. In return for the obligations undertaken, the States have been guaranteed the enjoyment of privileges as follows, for so long as they may faithfully carry out their agreements.

9. Baroda enjoys the whole of the revenue derivable under its State monopoly, and is, besides, allowed to import from Málwa, free of duty, whatever quantity of Málwa opium may be wanted

SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION.

for its home consumption. Cambay, Pálanpur, the Mahi Kántha and the Rewá Kántha States are allowed a remission of the whole of the British duty levied on opium consumed within their limits; Cutch and Káthiáwár are allowed a remission to the extent of one-third of the British duty levied on opium locally consumed; and in the case of the Sátára Jághirdárs a similar remission to the extent of one-tenth of the duty, and in the case of all other States to the extent of one-fifth of the duty is given. Special compensation has also been granted in all cases in which any loss of opium revenue formerly enjoyed by Chiefs was found to have been caused by the arrangements.

10. How far the introduction of these measures of reform have resulted in the improvement of the revenues will appear from the comparative statements submitted further on in this report.

HISTORY OF THE YEAR.

11. I will now give the history of the administration of the Department during the year 1886-87.

CHIEF EVENTS.

12. Among the principal events of the year was the settlement arrived at with the Government of His Highness the Gáikwár of Baroda regarding the assimilation of the minimum selling price of opium in British districts in Gujarát, in His Highness' territory and in the adjacent Native States. The minimum price has been provisionally fixed for two years, with effect from the 1st August 1887, at Rs. 1-4-0 per lb. (of 40 tolás) in advance of the rate fixed by the British Government for the issue of opium, from time to time, from the Government depôts.

13. The privilege of manufacturing opium under a State monopoly for exportation by sea as well as for local consumption was conceded to Baroda in 1877. But the exportation of such opium to China by sea having entirely ceased during the years 1884-85 and 1885-86, the attention of the Finance Committee was drawn to the question of the advisability or otherwise of continuing the maintenance, at Government expense, of the Agency at Ahmedabad, for the examination and passing of Baroda-grown opium. As, however, the exportation of opium was resumed by the Baroda Government, 592½ chests having passed through the scales between the months of March and July 1887, the Government of India sanctioned the retention of the Agency, experimentally, for a further period of six months.

14. No change was made during the year in the number or location of the scales for the weighment of opium, or in the rates of opium duty.

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

Total exports from Agencies and duty realizations.

15. The following statement shows the number of chests weighed and passed at the scales for export to different parts of India, and the amount of duty levied thereon, in each of the last two years. Particulars of exports from each Agency for a series of years are given in Appendix No. I :—

For Export to	1885-86.		1886-87.	
	Chests.	Duty.	Chests.	Duty.
		Rs.		Rs.
Punjab	...	...	...	.....
Madras Presidency	463½	3,24,450	511	3,57,700
Nizám's Territory	400	2,80,000	382	2,67,400
Hyderabad Assigned Districts ...	267½	1,87,250	269½	1,88,650
Mysore (Duty-free)	20	...	20	.....
Coorg (do.)	1	...	½	.....
Bombay Presidency	38,771	2,52,16,575	39,631	2,57,75,625
Do. (Duty-free) ...	124	...	121½	.....
Total ...	40,047	2,60,08,275	40,965½	2,65,89,375

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

16. The exports to Provinces and [illegible] the Bombay Presidency, during the year under report, amounted to 1,163 chests, and the duty realizations to Rs. 8,13,750, against 1,152 chests exported and Rs. 7,91,700 realized in 1885-86. As remarked in previous reports, these exports and realizations are not included in the accounts of this Presidency, and have only been incidentally mentioned in order to show the total amount of work done at the opium Agencies connected with the Bombay Presidency.

Exports from different Agencies.

17. During the year under report 39,631 chests of opium were exported from the Agencies to Bombay and other places in this Presidency, on payment of duty, and 121½ chests were similarly exported under duty-free passes for consumption in Native States entitled to full remission of the duty. The duty-free removals were less than those in the previous year, by 2½ chests—but the duty-paid exports exceeded those of the previous year by 860 chests. The exports from the Agencies at Chitor, Ratlam, and Dhár increased during the year, while those from the Agencies at Indore, Ujjain, Bhopál and Mándesar fell off, the largest decrease being observable at Mándesur. As in the previous year there were no exports from the Ajmere Agency during the year under report.

18. I have stated above (paragraph 13) that the exports of Baroda opium through the Ahmedabad scales were resumed during the year under report, and that 592½ chests were passed before the close of the year. In paragraph 11 of the report for the year 1885-86, it was stated that only 3½ chests were brought into Ahmedabad from Udepur in 1885-86, under the special concession made in favour of Udepur opium, by the Government of India in their letter No. 29, dated the 5th January 1886. But it appears that through a misunderstanding on the part of the Deputy Collector in charge of the opium depôt at Ahmedabad 10½ chests, imported from Udepur, during 1885-86, under duty-free passes, by the Native Chiefs in Gujarát, who are allowed to import opium from Málwa and Rájputána, free of duty, for consumption within their respective States, were left out of the account for that year. The importations of Dongarpur opium into Ahmedabad during the year under report amounted to 29 chests. The special concession granted in favour of the Dongarpur opium was provisional for one year. The Government of India have, however, lately, on the recommendation of the Agent to the Governor General in Rájputána, directed the continuance of the concession till such time as the Agency at Ahmedabad for the examination and passing of Baroda opium ceases to be maintained.

Duty realizations on exports from scales.

19. The amount of duty levied at the scales shows an increase in correspondence with the increase in removals of duty-paid opium—the realizations for 1886-87 having amounted to Rs. 2,57,75,625 against Rs. 2,52,16,575 realized in 1885-86, as shown below :—

	1885-86.		1886-87.	
	Chests.	Duty.	Chests.	Duty.
		Rs.		Rs.
At Rs. 700 per chest ...	308½	2,15,950	309½	2,16,650
„ „ 650 „	38,462½	2,50,00,625	39,321½	2,55,58,975
Total ...	38,771	2,52,16,575	39,631	2,57,75,625

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

Actual imports into Bombay and actual duty realizations.

20. The number of chests of duty-paid opium actually imported into the Presidency, and the amount of duty actually realized and brought to account, during the year under report, were 39,454 chests and Rs. 2,57,08,550. The difference between these figures and the statistics of exports from, and realizations at, the scales, given in the last preceding paragraph, is explained below :—

	Chests.	Duty. Rs.
Chests passed and duty levied at the scales in 1886-87 ...	39,631	2,57,75,625
Deduct—Number not arrived in Bombay before the close of the year—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay within the year	96½	...
(*b*) Chests on which duty was not realized in Bombay within the year	1,507	9,80,350
	38,027½	2,47,95,275
Add—Chests passed at the scales in 1885-86 but arrived in Bombay in 1886-87—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay in 1885-86	23	...
(*b*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay in 1886-87	1,403½	9,13,275
Number of chests actually arrived and duty actually realized in Bombay in 1886-87	39,454	2,57,08,550

21. The following statement shows, for a series of years, the number of opium chests passed and the amount of duty levied at the scales, and the number of chests arrived and the amount of duty actually realized in Bombay, together with the amount of differential duty levied on opium sold in Bombay for home consumption :—

Years.	Chests cleared and Duty levied at the Scales.			Chests arrived and Duty realized in Bombay.				
	Number of Chests.		Amount of Duty levied.	Number of Chests.		Amount of Duty realized.	Amount of differential Duty realized.	Total Amount of Duty realized.
	Duty paid.	Duty free.		Duty paid.	Duty free.			
			Rs.			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Annual average of three years ending 1876-77...	48,584½	499½	2,91,50,800	48,913½	499½	2,94,07,200	...	2,94,07,200
Ditto 1879-80...	38,144	225½	2,53,97,138	38,232	225½	2,53,62,137½	...	2,53,62,187½
Ditto 1882-83...	36,339½	57½	2,37,73,096	36,157½	57½	2,46,91,854	...	2,46,91,854
In 1883-84...	42,135½	47½	2,73,99,862½	40,929	47½	2,65,90,787½	57,775	2,66,48,062½
„ 1884-85...	41,332	91	2,68,80,712½	41,375	91	2,69,43,112½	59,821	2,70,02,933½
„ 1885-86...	38,771	124	2,52,16,575	39,216½	124	2,53,99,200	59,435	2,54,58,635
„ 1886-87...	39,631	121½	2,57,75,625	39,454	121½	2,57,08,550	64,975	2,57,73,525

22. This statement shows that altogether 39,575½ chests were imported into the Bombay Presidency during the year 1886-87, against 39,340½ chests imported in 1885-86; and that the duty realizations amounted to Rs. 2,57,73,525, being more than those of the previous year by Rs. 3,14,890.

	Chests.
Pálanpur	52
Mahi Kántha ...	33½
Rewa Kántha ...	19
Cambay	17
	121½

23. Of the imports during the year under report, the 121½ chests, imported under duty-free passes for the Native States named in the margin, were booked through to their destinations.

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

	Chests.
Native Chiefs in—	
Káthiawár ...	146
Mahi Kántha ...	7
Rewa Kántha ...	6
Native State of Cambay ...	3
Licensed Vendors of—	
Ahmedabad ...	105
Kaira	4
Panch Maháls ...	18½
Ahmednagar ...	19
Poona	2
	310½

Similarly, the 310½ chests cleared from the scales, on payment of duty at Rs. 700 per chest, for home consumption, as detailed in the margin, were conveyed straight to their destinations without being landed in Bombay; while the remaining 39,143½ chests were brought to Bombay and lodged into the Central Warehouse.

24. The warehouse account for the year 1886-87 is as follows:—

Central Warehouse account.

			Chests.
	Book balance on 31st July 1886		892
Deduct—	Loss from wastage and dryage, as ascertained on stock being taken on the 1st August 1886—*vide* paragraph 17 of the Administration Report for the year 1885-86		52
	Actual stock on 1st August 1886		840
	Imported during the year under report ...		39,143½
	Total stock ...		39,983½
	Exported to China		37,838
	Exported to Zanzibar and other African ports ...		18½
	Exported to Mysore and Cochin		91
	Exported to Quetta		½
	Sold for home consumption—		
(*a*)	To Native Chiefs of—		
	Kutch 68		
	Káthiáwár ... 96		
	Mahi Kántha ... 5½		
	Rewa Kántha ... 3		
	Cambay ... 1		
	Dharampur ... 2		
		175½	
(*b*)	To Licensed Opium Vendors of—		
	Bombay ... 108		
	Ahmedabad ... 91½		
	Kaira ... 104½		
	Broach ... 78		
	Surat 27		
	Thána ... 10		
	Násik 45½		
	Ahmednagar ... 49½		
	Poona 79½		
	Sholápur ... 65½		
	Sátára 35		
	Kolába ... 4		
		698	
(*c*)	To Government for supply of depôts ...	420½	
(*d*)	To Government, being equivalent of 866lbs. and 26 tolás of opium *touch*	10½	
			1,304½
	Total disposed of ...		39,252½
	Balance in the Warehouse on 31st July 1887 ...		731
	Total ...		39,983½

25. On stock being taken on the 1st August 1887, the balance of opium actually found in the warehouse was 752 chests, 24 lbs. and 8 tolás, showing an excess of 21 chests, 24 lbs. and 8 tolás over the book balance. During the year under report a very large proportion of the opium brought to Bombay from Málwa was dry, hard opium, on which generally no loss from dryage accrues. An allowance of 4 ozs. per chest is allowed at the scales in Málwa on account of dryage, that is, a chest weighed at the scales contains 140 lbs. 4 ozs. The opium is always re-packed in Bombay in fresh chests into each of which exactly 140 lbs. are put, and thus if there was no loss from dryage, wastage or sampling, a surplus of 4 ozs. or 10 tolás would remain in the warehouse. On the other hand, with new opium the dryage is considerable even while the opium remains in the original packages. Moreover, it is the custom to spread out new soft opium on the floor of the warehouse for about twelve hours before the Bombay exporter takes weighment and delivery from the Málwa importer. With new opium, therefore, it generally takes something more than a chest which left the scales at 140 lbs. 4 ozs. to make up an export chest of 140 lbs. net. The excess discovered on actual stock-taking therefore represents the gain in the old dry opium minus the loss on the new soft opium. The gain is also to some extent due to the practice observed at the scales in Málwa, which is, to weigh a certain percentage only of the chests brought to the several scales before export, and to calculate the weight of the several chests or half chests in the consignment on the ascertained weight of the heaviest chest or half chest selected for weighment. A percentage weighment is fair to the owner of the goods weighed, and is fairly accurate when the percentage of packages is picked at random, and when the average is struck on the whole of the packages so selected, but it is manifestly unfair to the traders. The subject has been brought to the notice of Government and is at present under their consideration.

Dryage and wastage.

26. During the year under report 37,838 chests were exported to China; the exports, to the same country, in previous years, were, as follows :—

Exports to China.

	Chests.
Average of the three years—	
Ending 1876-77	46,699
„ 1879-80	39,325
„ 1882-83	35,071
In 1883-84	39,763½
„ 1884-85	39,819
„ 1885-86	37,173
„ 1886-87	37,838

27. The small increase of 665 chests, as compared with last year, is due to ordinary causes in the fluctuations of trade.

28. The additional articles to the Chefoo Convention were brought into operation from the 1st February 1887. Under the new arrangement all opium imported by sea into the Chinese ports is to be deposited in bond. It cannot be removed thence until it has paid, in addition to the tariff duty of 30 taels per chest, a sum not exceeding 80 taels per chest as lekin. This additional sum is supposed to be in commutation of all the lekin charges previously collected on the transit of the opium to the various provinces. It is well known that under the old system the lekin duties were frequently evaded. Under the new arrangement the prepayment of the tax is secured and the effect is a rise in the prices of the imported drug. In connection with this subject it will be interesting to quote here the remarks of some of Her Majesty's Consuls in China from their deplomatic and Consular reports on trade and finance for the year 1886 :—

DISTRIBUTION.

Exports to China.

29. The Consul at Amoy writes:—

"The decrease in the import of opium is owing to three different causes: 1*st*, to the high price of the drug; 2*nd*, to the increased use of native-grown opium; and 3*rd*, to the alteration in the lekin duties. Bengal opium sold at about 550 dollars to 555 dollars per chest through the year; Málwa at a little less. As regards the second cause, we hear the same story in Amoy as we hear in other parts of China, *viz.*, that large tracts of grain-growing land are given over to the cultivation of the poppy. The authorities issue proclamations forbidding this practice, but in the T'ung and districts near here they are set at defiance. The best native opium fetches as much as 470 dollars to 480 dollars per picul. Inferior opium adulterated with sesamum, 350 dollars to 360 dollars. It does not seem to be much used for the adulteration of the Indian drug. A good deal of it is brought from the country into Amoy clandestinely, and thus avoids all dues and duties. The third reason for the decrease is that the company, which formerly farmed the lekin taxes on opium in the southern portion of this province only in 1886 also bought the concession of the lekin taxes in the Canton Province as well. The rate of the Fuhkien taxes used to be higher than that of the Kuangtung. Consequently considerable quantities of the drug used to be imported at Amoy, which the importers would smuggle across the frontier of the province. When the two lekin farms were amalgamated and the rates equalized, the inducement to smuggle ceased. The result was a decreased importation at Amoy, with, I presume, an increased importation at Swatow. It is of little use trying to prognosticate from the course of the opium trade of last year what the prospects of this year are likely to be. The enforcement of the additional clauses of the Chefoo Convention have so utterly revolutionized the business, that the most experienced merchant in Amoy can only wonder what is going to happen. The general verdict, however, is that the Governments of Great Britain and China will certainly succeed in their avowed object of 'placing restrictions on the consumption of opium.'"

30. The Consul General at Shanghai writes:—

"There was, according to the Customs reports, an increase of 714 piculs in the total import of opium in 1886, as compared with that of the previous year. This increase was due to the large import of Málwa and Persian. Of Pátna and Benáres, the import was less than in 1885.

"The increased import of Málwa is ascribed to various causes, especially to the failure of the native crops in Honan and North Kiangsu, and to the very low rates of freight. The competition between the steamer companies reduced the freight from Bombay to Shanghai, on a chest of opium, from twenty-two rupees to three rupees.

"The increase in the import of Persian opium, from 99½ piculs in 1885 to 546, deserves attention. One chest of Mozambique opium was imported, and found a ready sale.

"The prices of all kinds of foreign opium were apparently lower than usual, the fall being especially noticeable in Pátna and Benáres, the prices of which were, at the close of the year, fully ten per cent. less than in 1885. As a consequence, probably, of these low prices, very little opium from Western China found its way to Shanghai. Under the head of 'Szechwan Opium,' the returns give only 126 catties, equal to 168 lbs. against 5,600 catties in the previous year. The freight on opium from Szechwan must be ten times as heavy as the rate lately charged from Bombay to Shanghai; and, although the native article is lightly taxed—when taxed at all—yet, taking quality into consideration, it will probably be unable, at least for some time, to compete successfully with Indian opium. When, however, the cultivation of the poppy becomes more widely spread in districts near Shanghai, the trade in foreign opium is certain to suffer; and, so far as can be seen, the native opium-grower has now nothing to fear from popular prejudice or official interference."

31. The Consul at Foochow writes:—

"The import of Málwa was pretty much the same as last year, being only 12 piculs, or 1,600 lbs. over. The prices, too, did not vary much from those of last year, ranging from $ 625 to $ 555 per picul against $ 625 to $ 557 5 c. in 1885. The actual consumption was, however, 150 chests less than last year. This description is not much used in Foochow itself, or in the immediate neighbourhood, the local consumers preferring the Bengal drug. Málwa and Persian are more used in the interior.

Exports to China.

"Patna opium shows an increase of 330 piculs (44,000 lbs.), and the consumption was 240 chests more than in 1885. Prices ranged from $ 665 to $ 570 per chest, against $ 700 to $ 635 the previous year: these prices, and those quoted for Benares below, are the lowest that the Bengal drug has ever been known to touch here.

"Benares opium again shows a considerable falling off, being 125 piculs (16,666 lbs.) less than in the previous year, the consumption falling from 308 to 229 chests, and prices ranging from $ 632 50 c. to $ 525 against $ 695 to $ 597 50 c. in 1885. The crop was again considered of a very poor quality by the dealers here, and the Patna drug is gradually taking the place of Benares in the favour of consumers.

"Persian opium appears to be steadily increasing in favour, taking to some extent the place of Málwa, on account of its comparative cheapness. The prices in 1886 were very low, ranging from $ 552 50 c. to $ 350 per picul, against $ 620 to $ 510 in 1885, a fact which no doubt stimulated the consumption, which was 165 chests over last year. The import was 112½ piculs (14,650 lbs.) over that of 1885.

"About native opium there is little of a reliable nature to note. It is grown in this province chiefly in the Fu-t'ing district of the Fu-ning prefecture to the north, in the Fu-ngan and Fu-ch'ing districts in this prefecture, and in the T'ung-ngan district in the Chang-chow prefecture.

"The import from Wênchow and T'aichow is said to be increasing every year. It, like Málwa and Persian, is not much in favour amongst local consumers, but is more used in the interior."

32. The Consul at Taiwan (Formosa) writes :—

"Indian opium still continues to lose ground. It has fallen off 48 chests this year, and there seems no chance whatever of the drug again finding a market here.

"The poppy has been planted in the Hêng-chun district, the most southern district of Formosa, and also in Chang-hua, one of the Mid-Formosa districts, but so far I have not heard of any native drug coming into the market from either place. Fai-chow and Wênchow opium is still brought to Lokkang and to the small ports on the west coast by junks, but to what extent it is impossible to say."

33. From the report of the Consul at Hankow it would appear that "Chinese opium is driving Indian opium out of the field in the Hankow Consular district." The Consul at Newchwang reports that "the cultivation of native opium is increasing."

Opium prices in China and Bombay.

34. The following statement shows the prices of one and two years old opium ruling in the Bombay market in each of the last two years, contrasted with the prices quoted for similar opium in the principal China markets of Hongkong and Shanghai :—

	1885-86.						1886-87.					
	Bombay Market.		China Market.				Bombay Market.		China Market.			
			Hongkong.		Shanghai.				Hongkong.		Shanghai.	
	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
August	1,164	1,212	1,162	1,208	1,205	1,254	1,168	1,222	1,172	1,224	1,236	1,298
September	1,146	1,192	1,164	1,220	1,212	1,268	1,167	1,212	1,172	1,233	1,216	1,294
October	1,188	1,234	1,199	1,259	1,235	1,282	1,170	1,199	1,149	1,192	1,201	1,264
November	1,173	1,206	1,177	1,218	1,202	1,241	1,152	1,183	1,177	1,234	1,206	1,258
December	1,188	1,220	1,190	1,210	1,225	1,248	1,133	1,175	1,175	1,220	1,186	1,252
January	1,194	1,232	1,178	1,200	1,236	1,255	1,131	1,177	1,178	1,245	1,186	1,234
February	1,157	1,225	1,162	1,201	1,231	1,266	1,115	1,174	1,168	1,226	1,160	1,236
March	1,140	1,225	1,143	1,198	1,196	1,257	1,148	1,230	1,158	1,255	1,170	1,261
April	1,141	1,262	1,168	1,245	1,209	1,297	1,174	1,214	1,157	1,277	1,210	1,255
May	1,144	1,231	1,162	1,265	1,221	1,295	1,175	1,223	1,176	1,237	1,212	1,277
June	1,169	1,241	1,156	1,229	1,208	1,286	1,188	1,242	1,176	1,246	1,207	1,282
July	1,174	1,230	1,166	1,215	1,214	1,282	1,177	1,230	1,193	1,270	1,210	1,275
Average ..	1,165	1,226	1,168	1,222	1,216	1,269	1,168	1,207	1,170	1,234	1,200	1,265

DISTRIBUTION.

EXPORTS.

Remarks on prices in China and Bombay.

35. From the commencement of the year the prices in the Bombay market gradually declined and did not rise again till during the last four months of the year. Higher prices were quoted in the Hongkong market both for new and old opium almost throughout the whole year. At Shanghai the prices, though higher than the quotations of the Hongkong market, were generally lower than those prevailing in the previous year.

Exports to African ports.

36. The exports to African ports amounted in 1886-87 to 18½ chests against 9½ chests exported in 1885-86. Málwa opium was not exported to any other foreign countries in either year.

To Mysore and Cochin.

37. Mysore and Cochin imported 91 chests from Bombay in 1886-87, showing an increase of 3½ chests over the imports for 1885-86.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

38. The rest of the opium disposed of by merchants in Bombay, amounting to 1,304½ chests, was sold for consumption in the Bombay Presidency—

(*a*) to Government who bought 431 chests for the supply of their depôts from which opium is issued to Native States and to licensed retailers,

(*b*) to British opium farmers, who bought 698 chests, and

(*c*) to Native Chiefs who purchased 175½ chests.

British opium farmers and Native Chiefs also imported opium direct from Málwa, on their own account, the quantities so imported being 121½ chests duty-free, and 310½ chests duty paid-opium. These, which amount to 1,736½ chests in all, constitute the year's stock for home consumption in British districts and Native States throughout the Bombay Presidency, except Baroda, which consumes opium manufactured locally. It will be convenient to present the accounts of home consumption, as usual, in pounds, each pound being taken as equal to 40 tolás of 180 grains, that being the standard of weight adopted in retailing opium and in keeping the opium accounts at Government depôts, and those rendered by farmers and Native States throughout the Presidency.

Government stock and purchases.

39. Government bought, during the year under report, from the merchants in Bombay, 431 chests at an aggregate cost of Rs. 5,29,335; the weight of this opium brought to account was 58,095 lbs. Four pounds of opium were returned by licensed vendors on the expiry of their licenses, for which they were paid Rs. 32, while 11 lbs. were locally purchased for Rs. 110. The aggregate purchases during the year thus amounted to 58,110 lbs. at a cost of Rs. 5,29,477, or at an average rate of Rs. 9-1-9 per lb., as against the average price of Rs. 9-2-4 paid for purchases made during the previous year. There were, besides, 36,892 lbs. of opium, valued at Rs. 3,38,193, on hand in the depôts at the commencement of the year. The opening balance and the purchases made during the year as above amounted to 95,002 lbs. The book value of the aggregate quantity was Rs. 8,67,670, giving an average cost of Rs. 9-2-2 per lb., as against the average price of Rs. 9-4-3 per lb. of the previous year's stock.

Government issue rate.

40. Opium was issued from the depôts at the uniform rate of Rs. 10 per lb. Cost price only was charged to Native States for whole and half chests indented for by them from the Collector of Land Revenue, Customs and Opium, Bombay.

Issues from Government depôts.

41. Altogether, 56,543 lbs. were issued from Government depôts on payment of Rs. 5,65,489. Of this quantity, 32,150 lbs. were supplied to British licensed retailers, for which Rs. 3,22,117 were realized; and 24,393 lbs. were sold to Native Chiefs, for which Rs. 1,78,126 were realized in cash, and Rs. 65,247 (being

the amount of the duty foregone) were adjusted by debit to "Refunds and Drawbacks" and credit to sale-proceeds. The prime cost of the opium sold was Rs. 5,15,403, so that a profit of Rs. 50,086 was made on the sales. From this profit should be deducted the value (Rs. 6,999) of the 766 lbs. of opium written off as loss from dryage and wastage in the depôts, the charges amounting to Rs. 9,155 incurred on account of the transport of opium from Bombay to up-country depôts, and Rs. 1,349 on account of the maintenance of the Government depôts at Sádra in the Mahi Kántha, and at Pálanpur, from which opium is issued to Native Chiefs, free of duty, and from which no revenue is derived by Government. The net profit is thus reduced to Rs. 32,583. Deducting the issues from the opening balance and purchases there remained in stock in the Government depôts at the end of the year a balance of 37,694 lbs. of opium valued at Rs. 3,45,269.

Total stock for home consumption.

42. In addition to the issues from the Government depôts to British licensed vendors, amounting to 32,150 lbs., some of the vendors bought opium on their own account direct in the Málwa and Bombay markets. Details of the quantities so bought have been given in paragraphs 23 and 24 above; they amounted altogether to 846½ chests, equivalent to 115,218 lbs. Including issues from Government depôts, the total quantity of opium placed on sale in licensed shops in British districts was 147,368 lbs., exclusive of certain unsold stocks of the previous year bought from retiring licensees by the new licensed vendors, which did not pass through the Government accounts. This quantity exceeds the previous year's figures by 6,929 lbs.

Sales in British districts.

43. The quantities of licit opium which actually passed into consumption during the year under report in each British district are shown in the subjoined table, in contrast with the licit sales during the preceding three years, and the average of each period of three years ending respectively in 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83 :—

Names of Districts.	Annual Average of 3 years ending			1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	1876-77.	1879-80.	1882-83.				
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Bombay...	919	7,112	11,086	11,557	12,615	15,532	17,088
Ahmedabad	3,274	8,452	20,244	23,760	25,857	27,783	26,687
Kaira	167	3,695	10,376	11,658	10,994	13,136	16,310
Panch Mahâls	...	1,068	2,854	2,718	2,766	2,596	2,251
Broach	233	3,186	9,713	11,739	12,353	13,507	11,799
Surat	816	1,545	3,520	3,820	3,692	4,693	3,975
Thána	565	595	1,330	1,636	1,337	1,688	1,764
Khándesh	1,025	1,302	5,860	9,588	10,282	11,246	11,301
Násik	2,079	1,754	2,525	4,498	5,895	5,557	5,684
Ahmednagar	1,185	1,052	3,191	6,722	7,707	8,887	10,565
Poona	1,030	1,044	6,066	8,550	8,960	9,382	11,104
Sholápur	282	659	2,649	5,220	6,942	8,140	8,777
Sátára	478	756	1,269	2,177	2,806	4,028	4,248
Belgaum	387	547	712	720	718	1,271	843
Dhárwár	328	269	378	498	555	660	604
Bijápur	117	114	215	335	312	378	388
Kánara	144	124	108	137	136	179	192
Ratnágiri	179	184	173	190	190	216	218
Kolába	167	219	302	337	679	657	607
Karáchi...	1,708	2,036	2,514	2,426	2,578	4,728	4,803
Hyderabad	8,490	5,534	5,790	6,051	7,185	8,273	9,137
Shikárpur	970	1,210	1,749	2,103	2,312	2,633	2,019
Aden	222	249	254	228	195	225	222
Total ...	24,765	42,756	92,878	117,668	128,066	145,395	150,657

General remarks on sales.

44. The foregoing statement shows that the licit sales of opium amounted in the year under report to 150,657 lbs. They exceeded those of the previous years by 5,262 lbs. and the average

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General remarks on sales.

of the three years ending 1885-86 by 20,281 lbs. They were 62 per cent. larger than the average of the three years ending 1882-83. Compared with the averages of the three years ending 1879-80, and of the previous three years ending 1876-77, they show increases of 252 and 508 per cent. respectively.

45. A marked increase is observable in the licit sales of opium in the town and island of Bombay since the establishment of a central warehouse and the closing of all private godowns. The sales in the Kaira district improved during the year, but the rate of licit consumption per head of population is very low as compared with the rates shown by the accounts of the neighbouring districts. The licit sales in the other British districts of Gujarát show large decreases as compared with the licit sales in the previous year. This is partly due to the celebration of an unusually large number of marriages among Hindus during the year 1885-86 which swelled the sales of that year, and partly to the low prices at which opium was retailed by the Baroda shopkeepers on the frontiers to the detriment of British revenues. The latter cause has, however, been happily removed since 1st August last under the arrangement concluded with the Baroda Government and referred to in paragraph 12 above. Among the Deccan districts, the increase observable in the case of the Collectorates of Ahmednagar, Poona and Sholápur is comparatively very large. The year under report was the last year of the period for which the farms were sold, and the farmers in order to reduce their losses had probably lowered their prices at the close of the farm, and a portion of the opium sold by them found its way in the neighbouring districts and the Nizám's territory. With the exception of Belgaum, Dhárwár, Kolába and Shikárpur, the licit sales of all other districts increased during the year under report.

Opium farms.

46. The year 1886-87 was the third and the last of the three years for which the opium retail farms of the districts of Ahmedabad, Kaira, Broach, Násik, Poona, Sholápur and Ahmednagar were sold on the minimum guaranteed vend system. Complete accounts for the several three-yearly farms are given in the subjoined table. The opium farms in other districts were sold for one year each :—

Districts and years.	Minimum guaranteed Vend.	Sales during the year.	Deficient Sales.	Excess Sales.	Net deficient Sales.	Net excess Sales.	Net Penalty paid on net deficient Sales.
	Lbs.	Lbs. t.	Lbs. t.	Lbs. t.	Lbs. t.	Lbs. t.	Rs. a. p.
Ahmedabad... 1884-85	26,521	25,632 13	888 27	...	...	...	.....
1885-86	26,521	27,628 29½	...	1,107 29½	...	...	.....
1886-87	26,521	26,596 19½	...	75 19½	...	...	.....
Total ...	79,563	79,857 22	888 27	1,183 9	...	294 22	.....
Kaira ... 1884-85	13,467	10,994 10½	2,472 29½	...	...	...	.....
1885-86	13,467	13,135 36½	331 3½	...	...	...	.....
1886-87	13,467	16,306 39	...	2,842 39	...	...	.....
Total ...	40,401	40,440 6	2,803 33	2,842 39	...	39 6	.....
Broach 1884-85	12,401	12,203 25¾	197 14¼	...	...	...	.....
1885-86	12,401	13,382 6¼	...	981 6¼	...	...	.....
1886-87	12,401	11,685 28	715 12	...	...	...	.....
Total ...	37,203	37,271 20	912 26¼	981 6¼	...	68 20	.....

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Districts and years.	Minimum guaranteed Vend.	Sales during the year.	Deficient Sales.	Excess Sales.	Net deficient Sales.	Net excess Sales.	Net Penalty paid on net deficient Sales.
	Lbs.	Lbs. t.	Lbs. t.	Lbs. t.	Lbs. t.	Lbs. t.	Rs. a. p.
Násik ... 1884-85	7,212	5,831 33	1,380 7	...	...	...	.....
Násik ... 1885-86	7,212	5,484 15	1,727 25	...	...	...	.....
Násik ... 1886-87	7,212	5,646 29	1,565 11	...	...	...	.....
Total ...	21,636	16,962 37	4,673 3	...	4,673 3	...	23,365 6 0
Ahmednagar. 1884-85	10,392	7,574 22	2,817 18	...	...	...	.....
Ahmednagar. 1885-86	10,392	8,850 30 7/18	1,541 9 11/18	...	...	...	.....
Ahmednagar. 1886-87	10,392	10,541 39	...	149 39	...	...	.....
Total ...	31,176	26,967 11 7/18	4,358 27 11/18	149 39	4,208 28 11/18	...	21,043 9 3
Poona ... 1884-85	12,684	8,837 28	3,846 12	...	...	...	.....
Poona ... 1885-86	12,684	9,061 17 3/4	3,622 22 1/4	...	...	...	.....
Poona ... 1886-87	12,684	11,077 16 3/4	1,606 23 1/4	...	...	...	.....
Total ...	38,052	28,976 22 1/2	9,075 17 1/2	...	9,075 17 1/2	...	45,377 3 0
Sholápur 1884-85	7,992	6,826 10 1/2	1,165 29 1/2	...	...	...	.....
Sholápur 1885-86	7,992	7,611 15 1/4	380 24 3/4	...	...	...	.....
Sholápur 1886-87	7,992	8,660 39	...	668 39	...	...	.....
Total ...	23,976	23,098 24 3/4	1,546 14 1/4	668 39	877 15 1/4	...	4,386 14 6

47. Of the quantities of opium sold in 1886-87, 6,761 lbs. were used in the manufacture of chandul and madat, against 3,835 lbs. similarly used in the previous year, and 4,214 lbs. in 1884-85.

Opium used in the manufacture of chandul.

48. The opium sold in Native States in the Bombay Presidency was obtained from the following sources:—

Opium transactions of Native States and sources of supply.

	Lbs.	Lbs.
Baroda.—Opium locally manufactured	.....	60,501
Cutch.—Bought by the Darbár in the Bombay market (chests 68)	.....	9,256
Káthiáwár States—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under duty-paid passes (146 chests)	19,872	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (96 chests)	13,067	
(*c*) Issued from the Government Depôt at Rájkot	14,115	
		47,054
Pálanpur States—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under duty-free passes (52 chests)	7,078	
(*b*) Issued from the Government Depôt at Pálanpur	4,948	
		12,026
Carried over ...		1,28,837

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Opium transactions of Native States and Sources of supply.

	Lbs.	Lbs.
Brought forward ...		1,28,137
Mahi Kántha States—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under duty-free passes (33½ chests)	4,560	
(*b*) Do. do. duty-paid passes (7 chests)...	953	
(*c*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (5½ chests)	749	
(*d*) Issued by the Collector of Customs from Government Stock (3 chests)	408	
(*e*) Issued from the Government Depôt at Sádra	2,892	
		9,562
Rewa Kántha States—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under—		
Duty-free passes (19 chests)... ...	2,586	
Duty-paid passes (6 chests)	817	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (3 chests)	408	
(*c*) Issued from the Government Depôt at Godhra	10	
		3,821
Cambay—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbár direct from Málwa under duty-free passes (17 chests).	2,314	
Do. duty-paid passes (3 chests).	408	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbár in the Bombay market (1 chest)...	136	
		2,858
All other Native States in the Bombay Presidency—		
(*a*) Imported direct from Málwa under duty-paid passes (2 chests)	272	
(*b*) From Government stock	2,029	
(*c*) From stocks of confiscated opium... ...	12	
		2,313
Total ...		1,47,391

49. The following is an abstract of the above, which, also, shows the quantities of opium dealt with in the same Native States in each of the two preceding years :—

	1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.	
	Chests.	Lbs.	Chests.	Lbs.	Chests.	Lbs.
Imported direct from Málwa—						
(*a*) Duty-free passes	91	12,386	113½	15,448	121½	16,538
(*b*) Duty-paid ,, ...	98½	13,407	89½	12,182	162	22,050
Bought in the Bombay market.	281	38,247	204½	27,834	175½	23,888
Issued by Collector of Customs from Government stock ...	20	2,723	2½	340	3	408
Issued from Government Depôts—						
(*a*) In Native Territory ...	102½	13,926	155	21,111	161½	21,965
(*b*) In British Districts ...	14½	1,960	17	2,313	15	2,029
(*c*) Confiscated opium ...	...	3	...	1	...	12
Baroda-grown opium	465½	63,308	457	62,167	444½	60,501
Total ..	1,073	145,960	1,039	141,396	1,083	147,391

50. I will now present the accounts of opium transactions in each group of states, as submitted by the darbárs concerned, premising that any differences in the quantities shown above, as bought by the Chiefs, and the quantities actually credited in their accounts for the year, are due to the circumstance that portions of the purchases made at the end of one year, have been accounted for, in the darbárs' accounts, after the arrival of the opium, during the next year.

51. The following are the statistics of opium manufacture and sales in Baroda territory:—

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Baroda.

	Average of three years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Area under poppy cultivation ...	19,044	334	567	6,294	2,554
Poppy Juice.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year	235,682	314,518	6,072	7,647	104,292
Purchased during the year	305,003	3,399	8,597	103,477	32,252
	540,685	317,917	14,669	111,124	136,544
Utilized in the manufacture of opium.	231,635	311,845	7,022	6,832	91,033
Stock on hand at the end of the year.	309,050	6,072	7.647	104,292	45,511
Production and Purchase of Opium.					
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year	103,664	332,713	402,631	301,342	237,798
Manufactured from juice	201,427	261,043	4,312	6,314	91,033
Confiscated opium	182	91	63	103	150
Returned by licensed vendors ...	5	...	16	...	...
Total Stock ...	335,278	593,847	407,022	307,759	328,981
Disposal of Opium					
Exported to Bombay *vid* Ahmedabad.	68,173	130,060	...	...	81,054
Issued to licensed retailers	34,345	60,463	63,308	62,167	60,501
Total ...	102,518	190,523	63,308	62,167	141,555
Loss from dryage, &c.	761	693	42,372	7,794	701
Stock on hand at the end of the year.	231,999	402,631	301,342	237,798	186,725
Total of Exports and Sales, Loss and Balance	335,278	593,847	407,022	307,759	328,981

Cultivation of poppy in Baroda territory resumed.

52. The cultivation of the poppy, which had almost entirely ceased during the years 1883-84 and 1884-85 was resumed by the Baroda Government in the year 1885-86, and about one-third of the area sown with a similar crop in former years was brought under cultivation. No opium was, however, exported to Bombay during that year and a smaller area was accordingly cultivated during the year under report. 592½ chests (81,054 lbs.) were exported to Bombay during the year under report. The stock on hand at His Highness the Gáikwár's warehouse at the close of the year amounted to 186,725 lbs. or about 1,333½ chests.

Licit sales in Baroda territory.

53. The quantities of opium sold in each of the main divisions of His Highness the Gáikwár's dominions in each of the last four years and the average annual sales for the three years ending 1882-83 are shown in the subjoined table:—

Names of Divisions.	Annual Average of the 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Navsári	1,798	2,507	2,636	2,919	2,999
Baroda	16,821	27,914	28,862	28,244	27,817
Kadi	8,380	17,588	22,326	19,581	18,500
Amreli	7,409	12,486	9,065	11,263	11,294
Total ...	34,408	60,495	62,889	62,007	60,610

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Remarks on licit consumption in Baroda.

54. The licit sales in the Navsári Division slightly improved during the year under report, while those in the Baroda and Kadi Divisions show decreases, the falling off in the latter being considerable. The rate of licit consumption per head of population in the Kadi Division was 0·76 tola, whereas the rate of licit consumption in the adjoining British district of Ahmedabad has been over one tola. It is evident therefore that large quantities of illicit opium finds sale in His Highness' territory. On the other hand, the very high rate (3·06 tolás) of licit consumption per head of population observable in the Amreli Division indicates that a considerable portion of the opium sold by the Baroda retailers must have found its way into the territories of the neighbouring Káthiáwár Chiefs. It is to be hoped that the recent arrangements concluded with the Government of His Highness will remove all cause of complaint on the part of the Káthiáwár retailers.

Cutch opium accounts.

55. The accounts furnished by the Cutch Darbár of its opium transactions are as follows:—

	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	2,102	2,538	1,046	3,429	2,747
Imported during the year .	9,267	8,400	12,600	10,220	9,520
Confiscated opium ...	124	66	27	67	238
Total Stock ...	11,493	11,004	13,673	13,716	12,505
Issued to licensed retailers and used for private consumption of the Darbár .	8,655	9,753	9,948	10,661	9,110
Dryage	448	205	296	308	323
Stock on hand at the end of the year	2,390	1,046	3,429	2,747	3,072
Total ...	11,493	11,004	13,673	13,716	12,505

56. The licit sales in Cutch during the year under report decreased by 1,551 lbs. or by 14 per cent. This is a large decrease and cannot be attributed to ordinary causes. Smuggled opium is apparently consumed in large quantities in Cutch.

Káthiáwár opium accounts.

57. The accounts of opium transactions in Káthiáwár, as furnished by the Chiefs, are as follows:—

	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year	8,699	15,723	16,172	17,101	10,716
Imported by direct purchase in Bombay and Málwa	10,839	23,479	33,892	27,039	33,075
Purchased from Rájkot Depôt ...	23,523	9,564	10,166	14,730	14,115
Confiscated opium	...	204	330	69	247
Excess found in stock on re-weighment.	3	1	4	3	8
Total Stock ...	43,064	48,971	60,564	58,942	58,161
Sold to public or licensed retailers and used for private consumption of the Darbár	31,321	32,253	43,035	47,767	48,607
Loss from dryage	401	546	428	459	464
Stock on hand at the end of the year ...	11,342	16,172	17,101	10,716	9,090
Total of Sales, Loss and Balance ...	43,064	48,971	60,564	58,942	58,161

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Licit sales in each main division of Káthiáwár.

58. The following statement shows the licit sales during the same period in each of the main divisions of Káthiáwár :—

Names of Divisions.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Jhálávád	3,575	4,936	5,659	5,068	6,081
Sorath	8,644	7,512	12,307	14,307	15,684
Hálár	10,647	11,348	13,765	16,699	16,093
Gohelvád	8,455	8,457	11,304	11,693	10,749
Total ...	31,321	32,253	43,035	47,767	48,607

Remarks on licit consumption in Káthiáwár.

59. The licit sales in Jhálávád improved by 1,013 lbs. as compared with those in the previous year, but the rate of licit consumption per head of population has not yet attained the average of the neighbouring states and districts. It is evident that large quantities of smuggled opium are still consumed in Jhálávád. The licit sales in Hálár and Gohelvád, which showed gradual improvement in the previous years, fell during the year under report by 606 lbs. and 944 lbs. respectively. The falling off amounts to ·03 and ·06 tolás respectively per head of population and may be arscribed to ordinary causes.

Pálanpur, Máhi Kántha, Rewa Kántha and Cambay.

60. The accounts of opium transactions in Pálanpur, the Mahi Kántha, the Rewa Kántha and Cambay, as furnished by the Chiefs concerned, are given below :—

Names of States.	Opening Stock.	Imported and locally purchased.	Total Stock.	Sold and consumed.	Loss from Dryage.	Closing Stock.
Pálanpur.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	4,175	7,312	11,487	7,717	145	3,625
In 1883-84	1,475	8,153	9,628	7,620	117	1,891
„ 1884-85	1,891	7,010	8,901	7,818	99	984
„ 1885-86	984	13,256	14,240	12,227	166	1,847
„ 1886-87	1,847	13,495	15,342	14,319	228	795
Mahi Kántha.						
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	3,059	7,193	10,252	7,843	166	2,243
In 1883-84	1,593	7,915	9,508	8,227	142	1,139
„ 1884-85	1,139	8,022	9,161	7,024	175	1,962
„ 1885-86	1,962	9,194	11,156	9,643	129	1,384
„ 1886-87	1,384	9,657	11,041	10,048	143	850
Rewa Kántha.						
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	4,362	4,767	9,129	5,028	1,039	3,062
In 1883-84	2,374	4,904	7,278	4,605	1,036	1,637
„ 1884-85	1,637	4,316	5,953	4,312	233	1,408
„ 1885-86	1,408	4,182	5,590	4,280	416	894
„ 1886-87	894	5,078	5,972	4,162	190	1,620
Cambay.						
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	132	2,765	2,897	2,799	4	94
In 1883-84	91	3,106	3,197	2,971	1	225
„ 1884-85	225	2,769	2,994	2,907	...	87
„ 1885-86	87	3,025	3,112	3,026	...	86
„ 1886-87	86	2,847	2,933	2,847	...	86

Remarks on consumption.

61. There has been a satisfactory improvement in the licit consumption of opium in Pálanpur and the Mahi Kántha Agencies.

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

The sales in Cambay decreased slightly. Those in the Rewa Kántha, as in the Panch Maháls, are gradually going down. Opium is still largely smuggled from Málwa into those districts.

Rate of licit consumption in British and Foreign Gujarát.

62. The subjoined table shows the rate of licit consumption per head of population in each British district in Gujarát, in each main division of His Highness the Gáikwár's diminions and of the Province of Káthiáwár, as well as in the Native States of Cutch, Pálanpur, the Mahi Kántha, the Rewa Kántha and Cambay in each of the last five years, these being the parts of the Presidency in which opium is largely consumed :—

Names of Districts and States.	Population.	Rate of Licit Opium Consumption per Head of Population in Tolás.						
		1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
British Gujarát—								
Ahmedabad ...	856,324	·96	·82	1·05	1·11	1·20	1·30	1·24
Kaira	804,800	·50	·46	·58	·58	·54	·65	·81
Panch Maháls ...	255,479	·58	·43	·31	·43	·43	·41	·35
Broach	326,930	1·29	1·08	1·38	1·43	1·51	1·75	1·44
Surat	765,330	·17	·18	·19	·20	·19	·25	·20
Baroda Territory—								
Navsári	287,549	·22	·24	·28	·35	·36	·40	·42
Baroda	756,807	·55	·95	1·14	1·47	1·52	1·49	1·47
Kadi	988,487	·18	·33	·50	·71	·90	·79	·76
Amreli	147,468	·88	2·05	3·12	3·38	2·45	3·05	3·06
Káthiáwár—								
Jhálávád ...	439,629	·30	·30	·36	·44	·51	·46	·55
Sorath	639,780	·58	·53	·50	·47	·76	·89	·98
Hálár	684,327	·60	·63	·63	·66	·80	·97	·94
Golhelvád ...	580,163	·66	·62	·45	·58	·77	·80	·74
Cutch State ...	512,084	·59	·66	·66	·76	·77	·83	·71
Pálanpur States ...	576,478	·53	·52	·54	·53	·54	·85	·99
Mahi Kántha ...	517,485	·59	·69	·56	·63	·54	·74	·78
Rewa Kántha ...	543,452	·44	·35	·32	·34	·31	·31	·30
Cambay	86,074	1·22	1·41	1·27	1·38	1·34	1·40	1·32

Smaller Native States.

63. All other Native States in the Bombay Presidency continue to obtain their supplies of opium from the nearest British depôts, or from the Collector of Land Revenue, Customs and Opium, Bombay. The quantities issued to each of them in each of the last five years are noted in the subjoined table :—

Name of State.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Dharampur ...	150	166	161	185	307
Bánsda	110	150	90	120	80
Sachin	37	48	32	32	32
Jawhár	14	12	10	8	8
Surgana	...	...	...	1	1
Akalkot	113	133	119	134	163
Bhor	122	143	220	276	284
Phaltan	219	150	126	190	98
Jath	21	16	17	23	38
Aundh	98	120	107	134	97
Sávantvádi	...	...	68	68	...
Kolhápur	408	272	292	272	272
Sángli	177	332	219	338	330
Miraj (Senior)	199	130	134	127	176
Do. (Junior)	75	62	39	61	53
Kurandvád (Senior) ...	55	62	75	84	38
Do. (Junior) ...			14	52	41
Jamkhandi	36	52	38	64	62
Mudhol	90	20	34	41	47
Rámdurg	20	15	15	18	27
Savanur	9	20	17	18	22
Janjira	...	...	136	68	136
Total ...	1,953	1,903	1,963	2,314	2,313

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

64. The aggregate quantity issued to the several Chiefs mentioned above in the year under report was nearly the same as in the previous years. The variations in the case of each state do not call for special remarks.

REALIZATIONS.

IMPERIAL.

65. The revenue results of the year may be summed up as follows :—

66. It has been shown in paragraph 21 above that the duty on opium realized and brought to account, during the year under report, amounted to Rs. 2,57,73,525. Of this amount, Rs. 11,30,250-0-10 represent the duty on excised opium bought for home consumption on account of Government, by British licensed vendors, and by Native Chiefs, as shown below :—

Deductions for duty on home consumption.

	Rs.	a.	p.
310½ chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 700 per chest	2,17,350	0	0
1,304½ chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 650 per chest	8,47,925	0	0
Differential duty at Rs. 50 per chest on the last item, minus 609 lbs. and 14 tolás, being the difference between the reputed number of chests (10½) charged off in the accounts on account of opium *touch* purchased by Government, and the actual quantity (860 lbs. and 26 tolás) for which price was paid	64,975	0	10
Total ...	11,30,250	0	10

Net Imperial duty.

67. This sum of Rs. 11,30,250-0-10 has been transferred in the accounts to the Provincial head, leaving Rs. 2,46,43,274-15-2 of the duty realizations under the head Imperial. To the same head pertain also the realizations on account of transhipment fees (Rs. 14,378), warehouse rent (Rs. 18,660), and interest (Rs. 10).

Comparison with previous years.

68. The items for the year under report are compared in the subjoined table with similar items for the three previous years, and with the average realizations for each period of three years ending respectively in 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83 :—

Items.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opium duty	2,94,07,200	2,53,68,115	2,47,73,820	2,66,48,062	2,70,02,933	2,54,58,635	2,57,73,525
Deduct— Duty on opium sold for home consumption	48,000	2,68,824	8,26,382	9,17,412	10,10,121	10,37,810	11,30,250
Net Opium Duty ...	2,93,59,200	2,50,99,291	2,39,47,438	2,57,30,650	2,59,92,812	2,44,20,825	2,46,43,275
Trans-shipment fee ...	160	1,945	2,608	16,592	14,511	17,042	14,378
Interest	270	267	102	41	27	22	10
Miscellaneous receipts ...	1	83	93	.....	640	17,515	18,660
Total Imperial receipts.	2,93,59,631	2,51,01,586	2,39,40,241	2,57,47,283	2,60,07,990	2,44,55,404	2,46,76,323
Less Refunds ...	.....	.....	734	183	1	.....	6,664
Net Receipts ...	2,93,59,631	2,51,01,586	2,39,49,507	2,57,47,100	2,60,07,989	2,44,55,404	2,46,69,659

69. The total Imperial receipts thus amounted to Rs. 2,46,69,659 for 1886-87, being more than those of the previous year by Rs. 2,14,255. The increase is due, chiefly, to larger imports of opium into Bombay, from Málwa, as has already been shown.

REALIZATIONS.

IMPERIAL.

Transhipment fees.

70. The realizations on account of opium transhipment fees show a decrease of Rs. 2,664, as compared with the receipts for the previous year. Altogether 6,093½ chests were transhipped in the Bombay Harbour in 1886-87 against 5,703 chests transhipped in 1885-86. Of the total number of chests transhipped in the year under report 2,795½ chests arrived *vid* Karáchi after having been transhipped at that port on payment of fees, and were not subjected to any further payment in Bombay. Of the remaining chests transhipped in Bombay, 1,186 chests were charged fees at the rate of Rs. 5 per chest and 2,112 were charged at the rate of Rs. 4 per chest.

71. The miscellaneous receipts shown in the foregoing statement represent the recoveries made on account of rent for the compartments and testing rooms let to merchants in the new opium warehouse. The item of interest calls for no remark. The refunds amounting to Rs. 6,664 shown in the statement were made in accordance with the orders contained in Government Resolution No. 575, dated the 24th January 1887, on account of excess recoveries of transhipment fees made in Bombay, through an erroneous interpretation of the notification of the Government of of India relating to the levy of the fees.

EXCISE.

Opium duty on purchases for local consumption.

72. I now turn to the consideration of the Provincial Revenue. As observed in paragraph 67 above, the amount of the opium duty transferred from the Imperial to the Provincial head in the accounts for the year 1886-87 is Rs. 11,30,250-0-10. This represents the duty realized on opium bought by Native Chiefs and by British licensed vendors, as well as on Government account, for home consumption.

Drawback allowed to Native Chiefs.

73. Of the duty realized on opium bought by Native Chiefs, Rs. 1,58,913-10-10 have been refunded, or are refundable, to the Chiefs entitled to the whole or partial remission of the duty, according to the terms of their agreements. The amount of the duty levied in the first instance on opium bought by Native Chiefs, the portions refunded, and the net amount retained by Government, are exhibited in the following statement:—

Name of State.	Quantity of Duty-paid Opium bought.	Amount of Duty levied at Rs. 700 per Chest.	Duty refundable.		Net Duty to be retained by Government.	
			Rate.	Amount.	Rate.	Amount.
	Lbs.	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Cutch	9,256	47,600 0 0	One-third ...	15,866 10 8	Two-thirds...	31,733 5 4
Káthiáwár	47,054	2,41,991 6 11	Do. ...	80,663 13 0	Do. ...	1,61,327 9 11
Pálanpur	4,948	25,446 13 9	Full ...	25,446 13 9	.....	.....
Mahi Kántha	5,002	25,723 2 3	Do. ...	25,723 2 3	.....	.....
Rewa Kántha	1,225	6,300 0 0	Do. ...	6,300 0 0	.....	.....
Cambay...	544	2,800 0 0	Do. ...	2,800 0 0	.....	.....
Sátára Jághírs... ...	517	2,658 13 9	One-tenth ...	265 14 2	Nine-tenths...	2,392 15 7
All other States ...	1,796	9,236 9 2	One-fifth ...	1,847 5 0	Four-fifths....	7,389 4 2
Total ...	70,342	3,61,756 13 10	.....	1,58,913 10 10	.....	2,02,843 3 0

Opium duty on actual sales.

74. The duty paid on opium bought during the year on account of Government and by British licensed vendors directly from merchants, amounted to Rs. 7,68,493-3-0. But the whole of these receipts do not pertain to the year under report, in which the whole of the quantities of opium bought were not, actually, consumed, while a portion of the year's consumption was supplied from the previous year's stocks, left unsold at the end of that year. To ascertain the amount of the duty actually pertaining to each year, it is necessary to calculate the same on the quantities actually sold in that year. The duty realizations so calculated are shown in the following table for each of the last four years:—

REALIZATIONS.

EXCISE.

Opium duty on actual sales.

Names of Districts.	Opium Duty realized in			
	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bombay	59,436	64,877	79,879	87,883
Ahmedabad	1,22,192	1,32,979	1,42,884	1,37,247
Kaira	59,957	56,541	67,557	83,880
Panch Maháls	13,980	14,225	13,351	11,577
Broach	60,373	63,530	69,465	60,679
Surat	19,646	18,987	24,135	20,442
Thána	8,412	6,876	8,681	9,075
Násik	23,131	30,317	28,581	29,232
Khándesh	49,312	52,879	57,837	58,119
Ahmednagar	34,571	39,636	45,705	54,332
Poona	43,969	46,080	48,250	57,108
Sholápur	26,846	35,702	41,863	45,139
Sátára	11,194	14,431	20,713	21,844
Belgaum	3,700	3,693	6,535	4,338
Dhárwár	2,559	2,854	3,397	3,104
Bijápur	1,722	1,605	1,944	1,997
Kánara	706	699	919	985
Ratnágiri	979	977	1,113	1,122
Kolába	1,736	3,492	3,379	3,122
Karáchi	17,621	18,401	24,315	24,702
Hyderabad	31,117	36,951	42,547	46,992
Shikárpur	10,817	11,890	13,538	10,748
Aden	1,173	1,003	1,157	1,141
Total ...	6,05,149	6,58,625	7,47,745	7,74,808

License fees.

75. In addition to the opium duty, the licensed vendors in some districts are required to pay certain fees for their licenses, while, in others, the opium farms have been sold on condition of the farmers undertaking to sell certain minima quantities of opium during the year, on pain of a fine of Rs. 5 for every pound by which the actual sales may fall short of the minima guaranteed sales, and the penalties levied on the farmers form an additional source of opium revenue. The following statement shows the total amount realized in each district on account of opium duty, license-fees and penalties, in each of the last four years, and the average annual realizations from the same sources in each period of three years ending 1882-83, 1879-80 and 1876-77 :—

Names of Districts.	Annual Average of 3 years ending			1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	1876-77.	1879-80.	1882-83.				
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bombay	13,877	45,505	68,727	75,842	80,769	90,314	98,153
Ahmedabad	16,903	42,886	1,07,946	1,47,552	1,46,879	1,48,091	1,42,469
Kaira	2,241	18,643	56,789	76,379	69,324	74,443	84,014
Panch Maháls	14,740	13,405	17,457	15,634	15,367	16,004	12,279
Broach	3,079	17,949	49,818	65,684	66,687	69,670	61,731
Surat	5,758	9,094	19,786	25,429	24,987	28,002	25,485
Thána	5,520	4,826	6,922	11,025	9,703	10,432	10,692
Khándesh	18,823	19,264	51,903	96,248	1,00,128	1,05,616	1,05,336
Násik	17,878	17,974	24,313	33,922	38,166	39,344	40,658
Ahmednagar	10,146	8,828	21,274	49,388	56,452	53,822	57,879
Poona	22,607	20,630	36,462	72,546	68,273	70,885	72,108
Sholápur	6,701	6,943	15,867	33,391	43,843	46,717	47,048
Sátára	6 355	6,898	10,761	11,941	15,236	24,329	22,905
Belgaum	3,338	3,975	5,160	6,110	6,721	9,814	8,772
Dhárwár	5,476	3,718	5,554	6,902	7,564	7,363	8,619
Rijápur	1,035	886	1,714	3,175	2,387	2,384	2,781
Kánara	1,033	1,268	1,090	1,259	1,242	1,611	1,588
Ratnágiri	1,693	1,565	1,655	1,733	1,983	2,105	2,022
Kolába	1,237	1,643	2,287	2,766	3,605	3,965	3,272
Karáchi	21,913	21,920	28,434	38,752	35,688	39,833	36,824
Hyderabad	53,617	49,307	45,332	60,065	55,146	55,904	57,195
Shikárpur	8,787	11,557	17,739	26,827	27,009	27,175	20,758
Aden	3,180	3,686	3,780	3,737	3,203	3,707	3,691
Total British Districts ...	2,45,937	3,32,370	6,00,770	8,66,307	8,80,362	9,31,530	9,28,329

REALIZATIONS.

EXCISE.

Total realizations.

76. The following is an abstract of the Provincial Opium Revenue from all sources for the same series of years :—

Names of Items.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opium duty	86,184	1,99,758	4,61,939	6,05,149	6,58,625	7,47,745	7,74,808
License-fees	1,45,013	1,28,865	72,986	1,03,673	99,669	93,429	91,201
Penalty for deficient sales by licensees	 14,740	134 3,613	65,845	1,57,485 ...	1,22,068	90,356 ...	62,320 ...
Transit opium duty	2,45,937	3,32,370	6,00,770	8,66,307	8,80,362	9,31,530	9,28,329
Profit on sale of Government opium .	....	...	19,959	1,195	2,932	18,190	32,583
Contribution for Government establishment	....	...	....	6,600	11,900	12,000	12,000
Fines and confiscations	17,015	15,000	12,895	17,496	14,168	11,739	13,707
Miscellaneous receipts	191	1,204	1,828	1,356	824	842	312
Total for British Districts ...	2,63,143	3,48,574	6,35,452	8,92,954	9,10,186	9,74,301	9,86,931
Duty at reduced rates on Opium consumed in—							
Káthiáwár	54,629	79,710	1,14,873	1,12,079	1,51,034	1,43,459	1,61,328
Cutch	4,800	16,977	29,245	28,000	42,000	34,067	31,733
Other smaller States	....	...	5,237	8,021	8,306	9,730	9,782
Total for Native States ...	59,429	96,687	1,49,355	1,48,100	2,01,340	1,87,256	2,02,843
Grand Total ...	3,22,572	4,45,261	7,84,807	10,41,054	11,11,526	11,61,557	11,89,774
Refunds.							
License-fees	193	1,631	181	...	308	7	...
Penalty for deficient sales	.....	18	1,029	11,887	8,818	11,109	27,129
Fines and confiscations	106	1,348	290	635	19	8	...
Miscellaneous receipts	29	6	3	...	...	...	...
Total Refunds ...	328	3,003	1,503	12,522	9,145	11,124	27,129
Net Revenue ...	3,22,244	4,42,258	7,83,304	10,28,532	11,02,381	11,50,433	11,62,645

77. The foregoing statement shows that the total net Provincial opium receipts for the year 1886-87 amounted to Rs 11,62,645, being in excess of those of the previous year by Rs. 12,212 and of the realizations for 1884-85 by Rs. 60,264. The receipts for the year under report exceed the average of the three years ending 1882-83 by 148 per cent., the average of the previous three years ending 1879-80 by 763 per cent., and the average realizations for the three years ending 1876-77 by 361 per cent. I trust that these results will be regarded by Government as satisfactory.

EXPENDITURE.

78. The expenditure on account of a portion of the opium establishment employed in Bombay and that employed at the Ahmedabad Opium Agency, which is debited under the Imperial head "Opium," amounted for the year 1886-87 to Rs. 24,722 against Rs. 25,661 debited under the same head in the accounts for the previous year. I see no reason to modify the estimate of Provincial opium expenditure given last year at Rs. 30,000. Of this sum Rs. 12,000 have been recovered from some of the opium farmers who are required by the terms of their licenses to contribute fixed sums on account of Opium Preventive Establishments.

OFFENCES.

Number of cases adjudicated.

79. The subjoined table shows the number of cases under the Opium Act investigated by Magistrates, the number of cases in which convictions were obtained, the number of cases dismissed, and the aggregate quantity of contraband opium seized in each British district and Native State (except Baroda for which a return has not been received) in each of the last two years :—

Districts and Native States.	1885-86.									1886-87.								
	Cases in which Convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total Cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband Opium seized.			Cases in which Convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total Cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband Opium seized.		
	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Lbs.	t.	g.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Lbs.	t.	g.
Bombay	13	14	..	..	13	14	64	17	135	5	6	...	...	5	6	47	30	0
Ahmedabad	57	62	11	17	68	79	303	6	135½	56	67	5	7	61	74	278	31	20
Kaira	84	89	10	11	94	100	59	20	158	36	39	8	9	44	88	45	34	105
Panch Mahâls	24	31	1	3	25	34	123	7	98	78	96	5	9	83	105	132	37	111
Broach	5	5	..	1	5	6	3	7	171	6	6	2	2	8	8	4	1	66
Surat	2	3	1	1	3	4	6	20	0	4	5	1	1	5	6	22	16	157
Thána	..	..	1	1	1	1	0	1	168	1	1	...	...	1	1	0	0	67½
Kolába	1	1	..	..	1	1	0	0	40	...	...	...	...	...	...		.....	
Khándesh	37	42	17	30	54	72	380	38	101	45	59	10	11	55	70	707	26	111½
Násik	7	8	4	7	11	15	59	23	20¾	4	4	2	3	6	7	5	38	157
Ahmednagar	5	7	4	7	9	14	13	27	75	12	12	...	1	12	13	33	1	122
Sholápur	1	1	1	1	2	2	46	1	0	3	3	...	...	3	3	1	39	150
Poona	1	1	1	1	2	2	27	9	135	13	17	1	3	14	20	8	10	60
Sátára	1	2	2	2	3	4	2	14	0	2	2	...	..	2	2	0	28	90
Belgaum	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	35	22½	...	...	1	1	1	1	0	3	90
Dhárwár	2	2	..	..	2	2	0	11	56	...	...	...	...	...	...		.....	
Bijápur	14	15	..	..	14	15	0	5	90	...	...	2	3	2	3		.....	
Kánara	..	..	..	..	..	..		.....		...	...	...	...	...	...		.....	
Ratnágiri	..	..	..	..	..	..		.....		...	...	...	...	...	...		.....	
Karáchi	1	1	2	2	3	3	0	1	145	3	3	1	1	4	4	2	8	22
Hyderabad	3	3	1	1	4	4	2	24	8	1	1	2	3	3	4	0	10	45
Shikárpur	4	4	2	3	6	7	1	32	160	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	2	135
Upper Sind Frontier..	...	...	..	..	..	..		.....		...	...	1	1	1	1	0	6	0
Thar and Párkar ..	18	18	3	3	21	21	20	23	172	26	31	7	8	33	39	92	4	13
Aden	..	..	..	..	..	..		.....		...	...	...	...	...	...		.....	
Total ..	281	310	68	93	344	403	1,119	11	90¾	296	358	49	64	345	417	1,384	12	91
Cutch	7	8	..	5	7	13	72	30	66	6	11	...	2	6	13	211	14	126
Káthiáwár	39	53	6	11	45	64	95	38	8	34	44	1	4	35	48	183	3	97
Pálanpur	50	58	3	6	53	64	136	1	27	35	41	6	10	41	51	122	39	48
Mahi Kántha	61	93	9	19	70	112	171	30	37⅜	60	76	8	18	68	94	43	5	161
Rewa Kántha.. ..	57	89	2	12	59	101	438	5	79	72	133	4	20	76	153	522	24	66
Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country	1	1	..	..	1	1	12	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...		.....	
Akalkot..	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	37½	...	...	...	...	...	...		.....	
States under Sátára Agency ..	5	5	..	..	5	5	1	8	45	...	...	...	...	...	..		.....	
Do. under Khándesh Agency ..	2	2	..	2	2	4	50	11	45	...	...	...	...	...	...		.....	
Total ..	223	310	21	56	244	366	977	39	164¾	207	305	19	54	226	359	1,083	7	138
Grand Total ..	504	620	84	149	588	769	2,097	11	75⅝	503	658	68	118	571	776	2,467	20	49

Remarks on the table.

80. This statement shows an increase of 14 in the number of persons brought up for trial in British districts during the year under report as compared with the previous year, while the number of cases adjudicated was almost the same in both years. The quantity of contraband opium seized during the year exceeded that discovered in the previous year by nearly 265 lbs.

Opium seizures in Khándesh.

81. The largest increase as regards the quantity of opium seized was in the district of Khándesh. Several large seizures of contraband opium were made by the Police establishments during the year under report. The largest seizures were made in the Bhusával táluka. In two cases the opium amounting to 192 lbs. and 265 lbs. respectively was being conveyed to the Berars in carts specially constructed for the purpose with false bottoms. 41 lbs. of opium clandestinely brought from Indore were intercepted at Warangaon while in transit to the Berars. Two seizures of 21 lbs. each were made by the Police Pátel of Kanyarkhede in the Edlabad Peta. At Pachora Railway station three passengers were found in possession of contraband opium amounting to 43 lbs. There is no doubt that an organized system of smuggling contraband opium from Málwa into the district of Khándesh and into the Berars is in existence. The opium smugglers formerly travelled by rail, but they now appear to have taken the land route which they consider to be more safe. Latterly the contrivance of a cart constructed specially for the purpose with false bottoms has

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been resorted to. Repressive measures are now being taken in concert with the Political authorities. The large increase recently made to the excise establishment in Khándesh in connection with the introduction of revised ábkári arrangements, will, it is hoped, with the cordial co-operation of the Revenue and Police establishments, tend more effectively to repress the smuggling of opium.

Opium seizure in Thar and Parkár in Sind.

82. The increase in the quantity of illicit opium discovered in Thar and Párkar is due to a large seizure of 75 lbs. which was effected in January 1887 by a mounted constable of that district. The opium was stated to have been brought from Jodhpur.

In the Panch Mahals.

83. The quantity of contraband opium seized during the year under report in the district of the Panch Mahals amounted to 133 lbs. and exceeded that of the previous year by 10 lbs. The only seizure of importance was that made by an Inspector of Police who detected 55 lbs. of opium buried in a village in the Godhra Táluka.

Opium seizures in Surat and Ahmednagar.

84. The districts of Surat and Ahmednagar show increases in the quantity of opium seized. The increase in the former is due to a seizure made by the Police in the city of Surat of 21 lbs. of opium in August 1886, while the drug was being carried to the Railway station. The increase in the latter district is only nominal. In two or three cases quantities of licitly obtained opium were seized whilst being transported without a permit.

In Ahmedabad.

85. There has been a decrease in the quantity of opium seized in the Ahmedabad District during the year under report. The total quantity seized amounted to 278 lbs. as compared with 303 in the previous year. Two very important seizures were, however, made during the year. The local officers of the Opium Department concerted a clever plan and succeeded in arresting 4 persons with 55 lbs. of contraband opium. The men (who were convicted) traded largely in smuggled opium and offered to sell opium to disguised detectives at Rs. 7-8 per lb. brought and laid down in Ahmedabad at their own risk and expense. The value of the opium was first deposited with their agent in the city and the traders then consented to produce the opium, by appointment in a building hired for the purpose and licensed, with the consent of the opium farmer as a shop for the sale of opium. The opium was believed to be of the kind produced in His Highness the Gáikwár's territory. The second seizure was made in the Sánand Táluka by the Head Constable of that táluka in the month of May in which quantities amounting to 3 maunds and 5½ seers or 125 lbs. of opium were found buried, having been brought from Málwa by two inhabitants of the Kadi Parganna of His Highness the Gáikwár's territory.

In Bombay.

86. The only other important seizure made in British districts during the year under report was one of 38 lbs. in Bombay. The opium, which was clandestinely imported by Railway, was seized whilst being conveyed by the smuggler from the Railway station to his place of residence.

At Railway stations.

87. Two cases were detected on the Bhávnagar-Gondal Railway by the Inspector of Police. In one case a Borah, inhabitant of Chital, imported 11 lbs. of opium concealed in bags of *Sorangi* (dye wood) consigned from the Kasurpura Station of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. In the other case opium amounting to 59 lbs. was found concealed in dealwood boxes containing looking-glasses. The boxes which were booked at Surat remained unclaimed at the Chital Station. The consignor, a Khoja of Lilia in Bhávnagar, was traced and successfully prosecuted.

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In Native States.

88. The number of cases tried in the Native States during the year under report was less than during the previous year by 18, while the quantity of opium seized increased by 107 lbs.

89. The following were the most important seizures during the year. One of 42 lbs. and another of 56⅔ lbs. made in the Báriya State in Rewa Kántha, one seizure of 20 lbs. made in the Sunth State, and two of 17 lbs. and 12 lbs. each made in Kadána. In Chhota Udepur 55 lbs. of contraband opium obtained from Bhopawar were seized in a single case. In Cutch a Savár of the Darbár Police seized 36 lbs. of opium brought from Mewar while it was being taken to the Jámnagar State. The Darbár Police also succeeded in securing 4 smugglers with a quantity of opium weighing 165 lbs. on the borders of the Runn. An Inspector of the Northern Frontier Police Force seized 58 lbs. of opium in Bavli under Dhrángadra, while a peon stationed on the Frontier Preventive line discovered 22 lbs. of illicit opium in a cart. A consignment of 69 lbs. of contraband opium destined for Junágad was found on the person of 3 men at Khakhrathal in the limits of Saila. In the month of July last an important seizure of 51 lbs. was made in the Pálanpur State. The accused confessed to have brought the opium from Mewar intending to transport it to Vaudha in Cutch of which place he is a resident. The only other capture of any importance was one of 10 lbs. in Pundra in the Mahi Kántha State.

90. The percentages of convictions on the number of persons prosecuted were 84 and 77 for British districts, and 85 and 84 for Native States respectively for the years 1886-87 and 1885-86.

91. Statement No. IV contains a classification of the offences charged, and the nature and amount of punishments awarded in 1886-87. The following is an abstract of the particulars embodied in that statement, together with corresponding figures for the previous year:—

Nature of Offence.	No. of Cases brought up.	No. of Persons tried.	No. of Persons discharged or acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.					
					Imprisonment.		Fines.			
					Rigorous.	Simple Imprisonment.	Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in default of Payment.
1885-86.					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.
Illegal cultivation of poppy	13	14	...	14	..	...	875 0 0	875 0 0	.....	...
Do. manufacture of opium	11	12	4	8	20	...	135 4 0	110 4 0	25 0 0	7
Do. possession of opium	211	233	57	176	3,296	154	5,167 4 0	3,326 7 0	1,840 13 0	860
Do. transport of opium	3	5	3	2	122	..	100 0 0	100 0 0	.....	...
Do. import of opium.	61	82	10	72	4,373	129	3,436 0 0	1,060 0 0	2,376 0 0	992
Do. export of do.	2	2	...	2	61	...	35 0 0	25 0 0	10 0 0	10
Do. sale of do.	40	50	19	31	90	31	811 0 0	761 0 0	50 0 0	30
Breach of condition of license	3	5	...	5	...	..	211 0 0	211 0 0	.....	...
Total ...	344	403	93	310	7,962	314	10,770 3 0	6,468 11 0	4,301 13 0	1,899
1886-87.										
Illegal cultivation of poppy	2	8	2	6	..	..	155 0 0	155 0 0	.....	...
Do. manufacture of opium	2	3	3	...	...	..	.....	.....	.....	...
Do. possession of opium	232	280	43	237	6,041	331	6,777 5 0	4,515 5 0	2,262 0 0	1,974
Do. transport of opium	9	11	1	10	30	..	399 0 0	399 0 0	.....	...
Do. import of opium.	62	77	12	65	2,391	451	4364 0 0	1,064 0 0	3,300 0 0	1,468
Do. export of do.	...	...	...	..	...	..	.....	.....	.....	...
Do. sale of do.	35	35	6	29	220	..	914 0 0	739 0 0	175 0 0	121
Breach of condition of license	3	3	1	2	...	..	40 0 0	40 0 0	.....	...
Total ...	345	417	68	349	8,682	782	12,649 5 0	6,912 5 0	5,737 0 0	3,563

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92. Similar particulars regarding foreign territory are given in Appendix No. V., an abstract of which is subjoined :—

Nature of Offence.	No. of Cases brought up.	No. of Persons tried.	No. of Persons discharged or acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded: Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fines. Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in default of Payment.
1885-86.					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.
Illegal cultivation of poppy	4	4	...	4	...	...	56 0 0	36 0 0	20 0 0	7
Do. possession of opium	134	261	36	225	3,195	1,066	5,591 1 10	3,165 1 10	2,426 0 0	1,915
Do. transport of opium	2	8	4	4	364	272	1,000 0 0	.....	1,000 0 0	636
Do. import of opium.	48	86	16	70	3,544	67	1,506 0 8	749 8 0	756 8 8	913
Do. sale of do.	4	4	...	4	122	...	228 0 0	28 0 0	200 0 0	45
Breach of condition of license	2	3	...	3	...	...	358 8 0	40 0 0	318 8 0	182
Total ...	244	366	56	310	7,225	1,405	8,739 10 6	4,018 2 10	4,721 0 8	3,698
1886-87.										
Illegal cultivation of poppy	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Do. possession of opium	190	291	45	246	7,140	321	5,755 14 8	1,869 15 10	3,885 14 10	5,176
Do. import of opium.	33	64	7	57	2,929	129	1,670 9 0	412 8 0	1,218 1 0	1,382
Do. transport of opium	1	1	...	1	365	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Do. sale of opium ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Breach of condition of license	1	2	1	1	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	.....	...
Total ...	236	359	54	305	11,434	441	7,431 7 8	2,287 7 10	5,143 15 10	6,558

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. G. MOORE,

Acting Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and Abkári.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Statement No. I., showing the Number of Chests for which Passes were granted, the Number of Passes granted, and the Amount of Pass-fee secured at each Opium Agency, during the year 1886-87, compared with the preceding three years and with averages for each of the three years ending 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83.

Agencies.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.
	Average for three years ending 1876-77.				Average for three years ending 1879-80.				Average for three years ending 1882-83.				1883-84.				1884-85.				1885-86.				1886-87.			
			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
Indore ..	726	19,064	600	1,14,38,400	711	9,526⅔ 4,658⅔	650 700	94,53,625	702	8,660 4,452½	700 650	89,55,475	801	12,825 154	700 650	84,44,050	773	12,219½ 246½	650 700	81,15,225	641	10,414½ 305	650 700	69,82,925	619	11,917 30½	650 700	77,67,400
Ujjain ..	679	14,978½	..	89,87,000	640	7,836 3,254⅔	650 700	73,71,667	653	6,748⅓ 3,511⅔	700 650	70,06,200	641	9,817½	650	63,81,375	665	9,497	650	61,73,050	619	9,175½	650	59,64,075	598	8,497	650	55,23,050
Udepur ..	511	7,554	..	45,32,400	424	4,590⅓ 2,383⅓	650 700	46,06,550	409	3,329 1,192⅔	700 650	31,05,533	111	1,202	650	7,81,300	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..
Chitor ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	458	5,552	650	36,08,800	623	6,498	650	42,23,700	729	7,560	650	49,14,000	772	7,645 143½	650 700	50,69,700
Ratlam ..	102	2,237⅔	..	13,42,600	130	1,715½ 997⅔	650 700	18,13,333	129	1,301⅓ 397⅓	700 650	11,69,192	131	1,527	650	9,92,550	159	2,258½	650	14,68,025	125	1,768	650	11,49,200	147	1,682 49½	650 700	11,27,950
Dhár ..	136	2,745⅔	..	16,47,400	23	481⅔ 110½	650 700	3,90,317	53	416⅔ 514⅓	700 650	6,25,983	91	1,392	650	9,04,800	66	1,016	650	6,60,400	36	679½	650	4,41,675	74	1,220½	650	7,93,325
Jowra ..	..	..	..	..	55	445 361	650 700	5,41,950	92	741 427⅓	700 650	7,96,467	96	1,410	650	9,16,500	101	1,338	650	8,69,700	80	983½	650	6,39,275	80	1,127	650	7,32,550
Bhopál ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	146	961⅓ 1,035	700 650	13,45,683	144	2,298	650	14,93,700	154	1,843	650	11,97,950	114	1,462	650	9,50,300	99	1,364½	650	8,86,925
Mándesar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	125	115 1,564½	700 650	10,96,992	358	4,849½	650	31,52,175	485	6,312	650	41,02,800	485	6,419½	650	41,72,675	407	5,276 67	650 700	34,76,300
	2,154	46,579⅓	600	2,79,47,800	2,033	24,525½ 11,765⅔	650 700	2,41,77,442	2,309	35,366	700 650	2,41,01,525	2,831	154 40,873	700 650	2,66,75,250	3,026	246½ 40,982½	700 650	2,68,10,850	2,829	38,462½ 305	650 700	2,52,14,125	2,796	38,729 290½	650 700	2,53,77,240
Ajmere ..	..	..	..	..	17	145⅓ 133	72 675	1,95,021	19	311⅔ 120½	725 675	3,07,296	11	163½	675	1,10,362½	5	103½	675	69,862½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Ahmedabad.	166	2,005	600	12,03, 00	127	1,554⅓ 203⅓	650 700	10,24,675	11	248⅓ 293⅓	700 650	3,64,275	19	945	650	6,14,250	..	..	..	....	1	3½	700	2,450	15	592½ 19	650 700	3,98,425
Total ..	2,320	48,584⅔	600	2,91,50,800	2,177	38,1	650 675 700 725	2,53,97,138	2,339	36,339½	725 700 675 650	2,47,73,096	2,861	154 163½ 41,818	700 675 650	2,73,99,862½	3,031	246½ 103½ 40,982	700 675 650	2,68,80,712½	2,830	308½ .. 38,462½	700 650	2,52,16,575	2,811	39,321½ 309½	650 700	2,57,75,625

Statement No. II., showing the Number of Chests actually imported under Passes into Bombay, and the Amount of Duty actually realized and finally brought to Account, as compared with the Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and the Duty secured at the Agencies in each of the 13 Revenue Years from 1874-75 to 1886-87.

Years.	Number of Chests actually imported into Bombay in each year.				Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and Duty realized in current year but which were lost on the Road.	Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and Duty realized in current year but which did not arrive during the year.	Total Number of Chests for which Duty was realized and credited in current year. Total of Columns 3, 4, 6, and 7.	Rate of Duty per Chest.	Amout of Duty realized and brought to Account.	Number of Chests for which Passes were granted but Duty not realized and Chests not arrived during the year.	Amount of Duty outstanding on Chests in Column 2.	Total Number of Chests for which Passes were granted during current year and the Amount of Duty due thereon.		Remarks.
	Under Passes granted in previous year.		Under Passes granted during current year.	Total Number of Chests imported. Aggregate of Columns 2, 3 and 4.								Chests. Total of Columns 4, 6, 7, and 11.	Duty. Total of Columns 10 and 12, less Duty on Chests in Column 3.	
	Duty having been realized and credited in that year.	Duty being realized in current year.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	16
								Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1874-75	144	1,282	46,085½	47,511½	0½	335	47,703	600	2,86,21,800	1,031	6,81,600	47,452	2,84,71,200	
1875-76 ...	335	1,031	40,785	42,151	2	509	42,327	600	2,53,96,200	1,258	7,54,800	42,554	2,55,32,400	
1876-77 ...	509	1,258	55,310½	57,077½	2½	435	57,006	600	3,42,03,600	...	...	55,748	3,34,48,800	
1877-78 ...	435	...	37,104½	37,539½	4½	283	37,200½ 191½	650 675	2,43,09,587½	141	91,650	37,533	2,44,01,237½	
1878-79 ...	283	141	34,503	34,927	...	139	34,575½ 207½	650 675	2,26,14,137½	114	74,100	34,756	2,25,96,587½	
1879-80 ...	139	114	41,977	42,230	...	16	6,462 35,209½ 435½	650 700 725	2,91,62,687½	150	1,05,000	42,143	2,91,93,587½	
1880-81 ...	16	150	38,395½	38,561½	2½	184	38,177 555	700 725	2,71,26,275	55	38,500	38,637	2,70,59,775	
1881-82 ...	184	55	30,844½	31,083½	...	64	1,132½ 29,451 380	650 700 725	2,16,27,325	49	31,850	30,957½	2,16,20,675	
1882-83 ...	64	49	38,715	38,828	0½	172	84 361½ 38,491	700 675 650	2,53,21,962½	536½	3,48,725	39,424	2,56,38,837½	
1883-84 ...	172	536½	40,220½	40,929	...	133	154 163½ 40,572½	700 675 650	2,65,90,287½	1,782	11,58,300	42,135½	2,73,99,862½	
1884-85 ...	133	1,782	39,460	41,375	...	186	246½ 103½ 41,078	700 675 650	2,69,43,112½	1,686	10,95,900	41,332	2,68,80,712½	
1885-86 ...	186	1,686	37,344½	39,216½	...	23	288½ 38,765	700 650	2,53,99,200	1,403½	9,13,275	38,771	2,52,16,575	
1886-87 ...	23	1,403½	38,027½	39,454	...	96½	313½ 39,214	700 650	2,57,08,550	1,507	9,80,350	39,631	2,57,75,625	

Statement No. III., showing the Number of Chests imported into Bombay, the Number of Chests disposed of, the manner in which they were disposed of, and the Stocks held in Bombay at the end of the Year, for each of the 13 Revenue Years between 1874-75 and 1886-87.

Items.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	Remarks.
In stock at the commencement of the year...	1,169½	1,498	1,327	7,233	4,035	3,168	2,051	2,915	1,623	1,695	1,452	1,312	892	
Imported during the year	47,511½	42,151	57,077½	37,539½	34,927	42,230	38,561½	31,083½	38,828	40,929	41,375	39,216½	39,454	
Total Stock ...	48,681	43,649	58,404½	44,772½	38,962	45,398	40,612½	33,998½	40,451	24,642	42,827	40,528½	40,346	
Removed for exportation to China... ...	46,917	42,174	51,005½	40,637	35,281	42,058	36,734	31,133	37,346½	39,763½	39,819	37,173	37,838	
„ England	150	41	71	2	1	5	11	...	...	...	...	...	* ½	* Removed to Quetta.
„ Zanzibar and African Coast ...	20½	3	14	4	9	8	18½	17.	21	8½	6½	9½	18½	
„ Mauritius do. ...	1	5½	3	1	1½	2	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	
„ Aden do. ...	...	4½	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
„ Cochin, Allepey, Tellichery, and Vizagapatam	9	4	6	4	...	30	81½	84½	74½	86½	75	87½	91	
Bought by Licensees in British District ...	...	...	...	11	59	81½	336½	460½	638½	657	751	800½	846½	
„ Native Chiefs, Cutch	8	...	...	...	64	50	57	73	58	60	90	73	68	
„ Pálanpur... } Pálanpur Superintendency.	...	...	...	...	12	12	1	...	} 15	23	4½	3	† 2	† Removed to Dharampor.
„ Tharád ... } Pálanpur Superintendency.	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	2	} 15	23	4½	3	† 2	† Removed to Dharampor.
„ Váv ... } Pálanpur Superintendency.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	} 15	23	4½	3	† 2	† Removed to Dharampor.
„ Mánsa, Mahi Kántha Agency ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	8½	3½	12	10	12½	
„ Rewa Kántha States	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	23½	16½	6½	7½	9	
„ Cambay	...	...	...	...	...	2	24½	11	20	22	16	1	4	
„ Jhinjhuváda } Káthiáwár Agency.	...	...	...	...	...	0½	1	0½	} 123	172½	250½	199½	242	
„ Junágad ... } Káthiáwár Agency.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	} 123	172½	250½	199½	242	
„ Bhávnagar ... } Káthiáwár Agency.	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	29	} 123	172½	250½	199½	242	
„ Government for internal supply.	75	89	68	76	298	501	360½	498	407	355½	312½	388½	431	
Total Removed ...	47,180½	42,321	51,168½	40,735	35,726½	42,755	37,687½	32,348½	38,735½	41,168½	41,343½	38,753	39,563	
Wiped off the stock owing to passes not having been utilized within the prescribed period	2½	1	3	2½	67½	592	10	27	20½	3½	171½	883½	52	
Total Chests disposed of ...	47,183	42,322	51,171½	40,737½	35,794	43,347	37,697½	32,375½	38,756	41,172	41,515	39,636½	39,615	
Stock at the end of the year ...	1,498	1,327	7,233	4,035	3,168	2,051	2,915	1,623	1,695	1,452	1,312	892	731	

Statement No. IV., showing the Number and Nature of Prosecutions under the Opium Act, No. I of 1878, instituted in each District of the Bombay Presidency in the Revenue year 1886-87, with their Results.

District.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owners.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment in default of Payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Bombay	Illegal possession of opium ...	4	5	..	5	...	...	467 0 0	467 0 0	.....	...	47 23 0	47 23 0	.....	.....
	Do. sale of do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	50 0 0	50 0 0	.....	...	0 7 0	0 7 0	.....	.....
	Total ...	5	6	...	6	...	...	517 0 0	517 0 0	.....	...	47 30 0	47 30 0	.....	.....
Ahmedabad ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	31	35	6	29	524	...	1,042 1 0	1,032 1 0	10 0 0	30	42 26 29	42 26 29	.....	71 6 4
	Do. transport of do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	100 0 0	100 0 0	.....	...	7 34 0	7 34 0	.....	.....
	Do. import of do. ...	20	29	4	25	1,776	...	3,348 0 0	368 0 0	2,980 0 0	871	226 27 112	226 27 112	.....	779 12 3
	Do. sale of do. ...	8	8	1	7	...	...	196 0 0	121 0 0	75 0 0	30	1 23 68	1 19 158	0 3 90	8 2 6
	Breach of license conditions ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total ...	61	74	11	63	2,300	...	4,706 1 0	1,641 1 0	3,065 0 0	931	278 31 29	278 27 119	0 3 90	859 5 1
Kaira	Illegal possession of opium ...	40	44	8	36	402	105	1,158 0 0	958 0 0	200 0 0	285	44 25 105	44 25 105	.....	15 1 11
	Do. import of do. ...	2	2	...	2	30	...	50 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	60	0 30 135	0 30 135	.....	2 4 3
	Do. sale of do. ...	2	2	1	1	180	...	100 0 0	.....	100 0 0	91	0 18 45	0 18 45	.....	.....
	Total ...	44	48	9	39	612	105	1,308 0 0	983 0 0	325 0 0	436	45 34 105	45 34 105	.....	17 6 2
Panch Mahâls ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	60	79	6	73	2,000	121	1,522 4 0	742 4 0	780 0 0	641	123 17 124	123 17 124	.....	567 13 6
	Do. transport of do. ...	3	4	...	4	30	...	45 0 0	45 0 0	.....	...	1 18 60	1 18 60	.....	2 2 2
	Do. import of do. ...	20	22	3	19	225	121	422 0 0	322 0 0	100 0 0	112	8 1 107	8 1 107	.....	155 15 6
	Total ...	83	105	9	96	2,255	242	1,989 4 0	1,109 4 0	880 0 0	753	132 37 111	132 37 111	.....	725 15 2
Broach	Illegal possession of opium ...	5	5	1	4	46	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	.....	...	3 33 112	3 32 22	0 1 90	.....
	Do. sale of do. ...	3	3	1	2	10	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	...	0 7 134	0 7 134	.....	3 10 0
	Total ...	8	8	2	6	56	...	18 0 0	18 0 0	.....	...	4 1 66	3 39 156	0 1 90	3 10 0
Surat	Illegal possession of opium ...	3	4	....	4	122	...	354 0 0	54 0 0	300 0 0	47	21 27 0	21 27 0	.....	24 5 10
	Do. import of do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	75 0 0	75 0 0	.....	...	0 29 157	0 29 157	.....	.....
	Breach of license conditions ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total ...	5	6	1	5	122	...	429 0 0	129 0 0	300 0 0	47	22 16 157	22 16 157	.....	24 5 10

Thána	Breach of license conditions ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	...	0 0 67½	0 0 67½	.....	.....
Khándesh ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	39	50	10	40	2,140	90	816 0 0	179 0 0	637 0 0	774	578 3 21	577 32 156	0 10 45	.....
	Do. transport of do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Do. import of do. ...	11	15	...	15	360	330	405 0 0	210 0 0	195 0 0	425	129 3 157½	129 3 157½	.....	7 10 3
	Do. sale of do. ...	4	4	1	3	...	...	170 0 0	170 0 0	.....	...	0 19 113	0 19 113	.....	.....
	Total ...	55	70	11	59	2,500	420	1,401 0 0	569 0 0	832 0 0	1,199	707 25 111½	707 16 66½	0 10 45	7 10 3
Násik	Illegal possession of opium ...	3	4	2	2	30	...	80 0 0	80 0 0	.....	...	5 29 135	5 19 135	0 10 0	.....
	Do. sale of do. ...	3	3	1	2	30	...	15 0 0	15 0 0	.....	...	0 9 22	0 5 22	0 4 0	0 2 0
	Total ...	6	7	3	4	60	...	95 0 0	95 0 0	.....	...	5 38 157	5 24 157	0 14 0	0 2 0
Ahmednagar ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	6	6	...	6	...	15	360 0 0	150 0 0	210 0 0	77	5 28 157	5 28 157	.....	1 0 0
	Do. transport of do. ...	4	5	1	4	...	...	244 0 0	244 0 0	.....	...	27 12 113	3 10 0	24 2 113	.....
	Do. sale of do. ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	21 0 0	21 0 0	.....	...	0 0 32	0 0 32	.....	.....
	Total ...	12	13	1	12	...	15	325 0 0	415 0 0	210 0 0	77	33 1 122	33 1 122	.....	1 0 0
Sholápur... ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	25 0 0	25 0 0	.....	...	1 32 0	1 32 0	.....	.....
	Do. sale of do. ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	12 0 0	12 0 0	.....	...	0 7 150	0 7 150	.....	.....
	Total ...	3	3	...	3	...	...	37 0 0	37 0 0	.....	...	1 39 150	1 39 150	.....	.....
Poona	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	2	8	2	6	...	...	155 0 0	155 0 0	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Illegal possession of opium ...	4	4	1	3	...	...	140 0 0	140 0 0	.....	...	6 11 150	6 11 150	.....	1 13 11
	Do. sale of do. ...	8	8	...	8	...	...	290 0 0	290 0 0	.....	...	1 38 90	1 38 90	.....	4 1 3
	Total ...	14	20	3	17	...	...	585 0 0	585 0 0	.....	...	8 10 60	8 10 60	.....	5 15 2
Sátára	Illegal possession of opium ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	65 0 0	5 0 0	60 0 0	60	0 28 90	0 28 90	.....	0 12 6
Bijápur	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	2	3	3	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgaum	Illegal import of opium	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 3 90	.....	0 3 90	.....
Karáchi	Illegal possession of opium ...	2	2	1	1	...	...	16 0 0	.....	16 0 0	...	2 1 112	2 1 112	.....	.....
	Do. Import of do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	1 0 0	.....	1 0 0	...	0 2 90	0 2 90	.....	.....
	Do. sale of do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	50 0 0	.....	50 0 0	...	0 4 0	0 4 0	.....	.....
	Total ..	4	4	1	3	...	...	67 0 0	.....	67 0 0	...	2 8 22	2 8 22	.....	.....

Statement No. IV—continued.

District.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment Awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the owners.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment in default of Payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Hyderabad ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	3	4	3	1	...	...	25 0 0	25 0 0	.....	...	0 10 45	0 2 0	0 8 45	.....
Shikárpur ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	15 0 0	.....	15 0 0	30	0 2 0	0 2 0	.....	.....
	Do. import of do. ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 0 135	0 0 135	.....	.....
	Total ...	2	2	1	1	...	...	15 0 0	.....	15 0 0	30	0 2 135	0 2 135	.....	.....
Upper Sind Frontier.	Illegal sale of opium	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 6 0	0 6 0	.....	.....
Thar and Párkar.	Illegal possession of opium ...	28	34	5	29	777	...	684 0 0	634 0 0	50 0 0	30	90 5 148	90 5 148	.....	29 10 6
	Do. import of do. ...	5	5	3	2	...	...	63 0 0	63 0 0	.....		1 38 45	1 38 45	.....	.....
	Total ...	33	39	8	31	777	...	747 0 0	697 0 0	50 0 0	30	92 4 13	92 4 13	.....	29 10 6
	ABSTRACT.														
	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	2	8	2	6	...	...	155 0 0	155 0 0	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Do. manufacture of opium ...	2	3	3	...	..	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Do. possession of do. ...	232	280	43	237	6,041	331	6,777 5 0	4,515 5 0	2,262 0 0	1,974	974 26 148	973 36 148	0 30 0	712 0 6
	Do. transport of do. ..	9	11	1	10	30	...	399 0 0	399 0 0	.....	...	36 24 173	12 22 60	24 2 113	2 2 2
	Do. import of do. ...	62	77	12	65	2,391	451	4,364 0 0	1,064 0 0	3,300 0 0	1,468	367 18 128½	367 15 3½	0 3 90	945 10 3
	Do. sale of do. ...	35	35	6	29	220	...	914 0 0	739 0 0	175 0 0	121	5 21 114	5 14 24	0 7 90	15 15 9
	Breach of condition of license ...	3	3	1	2	...	...	40 0 0	40 0 0	.....	...	0 0 67½	0 0 67½	.....	.....
	Total ...	345	417	68	349	8,682	782	12,649 5 0	6,912 5 0	5,737 0 0	3,563	1,384 12 91	1,359 8 158	25 3 11	1,675 12 8

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Statement No. V., showing the Number and Nature of Offences relating to Opium detected and inquired into in each Native State in the Bombay Presidency in the Revenue year 1886-87 and the Punishment awarded by the Chiefs.

Districts.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owners.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment in default of Payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Cutch	Illegal possession of opium ...	2	4	1	3	...	...	118 15 10	118 15 10	.....	...	2 6 30	2 6 30	.....	0 8 0
	Do. transport do. ...	1	1	...	1	365	...	.....	.....	.....	...	36 25 0	36 25 0	.....	50 5 7
	Do. import of do. ...	3	8	1	7	1,520	...	659 9 0	105 8 0	554 1 0	635	172 23 96	172 23 96	.....	188 8 8
	Total ...	6	13	2	11	1,885	...	778 8 10	224 7 10	554 1 0	635	211 14 126	211 14 126	.....	239 6 3
Káthiáwár ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	35	48	4	44	3,355	195	1,495 14 10	400 0 0	1,095 14 10	3,482	183 3 97	183 3 97	.....	.....
Pálanpur ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	37	46	9	37	479	44	797 0 0	387 0 0	410 0 0	269	47 36 138	47 35 71	0 1 67	1,567 7 6
	Do. imports do. ...	3	3	...	3	255	30	145 0 0	45 0 0	100 0 0	30	72 25 90	72 25 90	.....	62 10 0
	Breach of condition of license ...	1	2	1	1	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	.....	...	2 17 0	2 17 0	.....	0 14 0
	Total ...	41	51	10	41	734	74	947 0 0	437 0 0	510 0 0	299	122 39 48	122 37 161	0 1 67	1,630 15 6
Mahi Kántha ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	68	94	18	76	214	45	676 0 0	363 0 0	313 0 0	258	43 5 161	42 22 37	0 23 124	58 10 5
Rewa Kántha ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	48	99	13	86	3,092	37	2,668 0 0	601 0 0	2,067 0 0	1,167	300 0 122	300 0 122	.....	101 2 2
	Do. import do. ...	27	53	6	47	1,154	90	866 0 0	262 0 0	604 0 0	717	222 8 124	222 8 56	0 0 68	82 12 3
	Do. sale do. ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 15 0	0 15 0	.....	.....
	Total ...	76	153	20	133	4,246	127	3,534 0 0	863 0 0	2,671 0 0	1,884	522 24 66	522 23 178	0 0 68	183 14 5
	Abstract.														
	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Do. possession of opium ...	190	291	45	246	7,140	321	5,755 14 8	1,869 15 10	3,885 14 10	5,176	576 13 8	575 27 177	0 25 11	1,727 12 1
	Do. import do. ...	33	64	7	57	2,929	120	1,670 9 0	412 8 0	1,218 1 0	1,382	467 17 130	467 17 62	0 0 68	338 14 11
	Do. transport do. ...	1	1	...	1	365	...	...	.....	.....	...	36 25 0	36 25 0	.....	50 5 7
	Do. sale do. ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	0 15 0	0 15 0	.....	.....
	Breach of condition of license ...	1	2	1	1	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	.....	...	2 17 0	2 17 0	.....	0 14 0
	Total ...	226	359	54	305	11,434	441	7,431 7 8	2,287 7 10	5,143 15 10	6,558	1,083 7 138	1,082 21 59	0 25 79	2,112 14 7

J. G. MOORE,
Acting Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and Abkári.

Opium: Report on the Administration of the Opium Department for the year 1886-87.

No. 2581.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 27th April 1888.

Letter from the Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári, No. 632, dated 29th January 1888—Submitting his report on the administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency for the revenue year 1886-87 ending 31st July 1887.

RESOLUTION.—The annual opium report for 1886-87 was not despatched to Government by the Commissioner until some three months or more after the usual time for its submission, and printed copies were not received in this office until the 28th of February. For this delay no explanation is offered in the report, nor does any suggest itself upon its perusal. The Acting Commissioner of Customs should explain the reasons of this great and unsatisfactory delay in the submission of his report, which deprives its consideration of so much of its interest and utility, and should be desired to comply more strictly in future with the instructions of Government.

2. No changes were made during the year in the number and location of the scales for the weighment of opium passing into the Bombay Presidency. Owing to the temporary cessation of the growth of the poppy in the Baroda State during the years 1883-84 and 1884-85, it was in contemplation to reduce the establishment entertained at Ahmedabad for the weighing of opium exported thence. During the past year however the cultivation of the plant having been resumed, and 592½ chests of the drug having passed the scales between March and July, their experimental retention for six months longer was sanctioned by the Government of India in their letter No. 6319 of the 30th November 1887 quoted in the preamble to the Resolution of this Government, No. 8758 of the 24th of December last.

3. The total number of chests of opium which passed the scales during the year was 40,935½, (142 of these being duty-free,) upon which was levied duty amounting to Rs. 2,65,89,375. During the previous year Rs. 2,60,08,275 were levied upon 40,047 chests. Of the above-given total for the year 39,631 chests, and Rs. 2,57,75,625 represent the transactions connected with opium passed to Bombay and other places in the Presidency, and really belonging to the year under review. To them however have to be made additions and subtractions on account of transactions standing over at its commencement and close, so that the figures of the actual number of chests imported into the Presidency, and of the duty thereon, stand at 39,575½ (of which 121½ were duty-free) and Rs. 2,57,73,525. The remaining chests which passed the scales were for shipment to Madras, Berar and Hyderabad.

4. Of the 39,575½ chests imported, 121½ were (as has been stated) passed duty-free direct to Native States; 310½ were conveyed to their destination in the mofussil, without passing through Bombay, while the remainder of 39,143½ were lodged in the central warehouse, in which 840 additional chests were in stock on the first day of the year, making a total of 39,983½ which passed through it during the period. 1,304½ of these chests were removed for home consumption, while 37,948 were exported to China and elsewhere, leaving a paper balance in stock at the close of the year of 731. Between these figures and the actual stock as ascertained by weight some discrepancy occurs as usual on account of the margin always allowed for wastage and dryage. The points connected herewith, raised at paragraph 25 of the report, have already received the attention of Government.

5. The exports to China showed an increase of 665 chests over those registered during the year 1885-86. As the additional articles to the Chefoo Convention did not come into operation till the 1st February 1887, their whole effect was not felt during the year, in which there was indeed, as compared with that preceding, an actual increase, as above shown, in exports to China, due to trade fluctuations, though they were below the average of the years previous to 1885-86. Mr. Moore gives some quotations from consular reports in connection with the Chinese trade, which however add nothing to the already existing information as to its downward tendency and the influences which are at work to cause it. The exports to African ports, Mysore and Cochin were all slightly greater than in 1885-86, but are insignificant in amount.

6. The amount of opium issued from Government depôts for consumption in the Presidency and the Native States connected with it was 56,543 lbs., on payment of duty amounting to Rs. 5,65,489, a net profit of Rs. 50,086 being made upon the sales. 32,150 lbs. were for consumption in British districts, into which 115,218 additional lbs. were brought by the vendors, purchased in the market in Bombay and Málwa. The quantity thus available for consumption amounted to 147,368 lbs., exclusive of old stocks in hand, which did not pass through Government accounts. The actual licit consumption amounted to 150,657, or 5,262 lbs. more than in 1885-86. The licit consumption of opium has indeed increased at a very rapid rate during the last decade and is now more than six times the figure at which it stood in 1876-77. This increase is due to the arrangements by which the co-operation of Native States in repression of smuggling has been secured, to an improved system of supply and distribution, and to vigorous preventive measures. From the returns given for the various districts it must still be inferred that illicit consumption continues to a great extent in Kaira. The attention of the Collector was called to this fact last year, and no doubt some improvement in the matter is noticeable, due presumably to an increase of vigilance on the part of the authorities. Still from the figures now before Government it appears that the contraband trade in this district is still considerable, and efforts for its repression must on no account be relaxed. The same remarks apply to the case of Jhálávád in Káthiáwár, also commented upon in last year's Resolution upon the Commissioner's report.

7. The cultivation of the poppy having been resumed in the Baroda State, (as above alluded to,) 592½ chests were exported thence during the year, and 1,333½ remained in stock at its close. A settlement has been arrived at with His Highness the Gáekwár, by which the minimum selling price of opium in his territories and the adjoining British districts has been assimilated, and provisionally fixed for two years.

8. Of the Rs. 2,57,73,525 of duty on opium, realized and brought to account during the year, Rs. 11,30,250-0-10 have been transferred to Provincial accounts as the duty on opium bought for home consumption by licensed vendors and Native Chiefs, the remainder Rs. 2,46,43,274-15-2 being classed as Imperial. The Imperial receipts, when miscellaneous items are added to the above sum, and refunds withdrawn from it, amounted in all to Rs. 2,46,69,659 or more than two lákhs in excess of the realizations in 1885-86. The net Provincial revenue obtained by a similar calculation was Rs. 11,62,645. This figure is better by Rs. 12,212 than that obtained in the previous year, which was in its turn more than half a lákh higher than that for 1884-85. The Imperial expenditure, on account of a share in the Bombay establishment and the Ahmedabad Agency, during the year, was Rs. 24,722. Provincial charges are estimated at Rs. 30,000; to give their exact figure being impossible owing to the amalgamation of this with other excise departments.

9. The statement of offences tried and punished under the Opium Act calls for no special remark. The number of cases in which prosecutions took place was 571 as against 588 in 1885-86, while convictions (503) were within one figure of those obtained in that year (504). It appears that smuggling is still carried on to a considerable extent in Khándesh, and Government will be

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glad to learn at the close of the current year whether the repressive measures alluded to by the Commissioner in paragraph 81 of his report lead to any marked diminution of its prevalence.

10. The Commissioner should be thanked for the fullness and interesting nature of the report.

E. LAWRENCE,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári,
The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
The Collector and Political Agent, Kaira,
The Collector and Political Agent, Thána,
The Collector and Political Agent, Kolába,
The Collector and Political Agent, Sholápur,
The Collector and Political Agent, Sátára,
The Collector and Political Agent, Dhárwár,
All other Collectors, including the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Sind,
The Accountant General,
The Collector of Customs, Karáchi, and Assistant Commissioner of Salt Revenue in Sind,
The Political Agent, Káthiáwár,
The Political Agent, Cutch,
The Political Agent, Rewa Kántha,
The Political Agent, Mahi Kántha,
The Political Agent, Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country,
The Political Superintendent, Pálanpur,
The Political Superintendent, Sávantvádi,
The Agent to the Governor General, Baroda,
The Agent to His Excellency the Governor at Surat,
The Political Department of the Secretariat,
The Government of India,
The Secretary of State for India. } By letter.

} With copies of the report.

No. of 1888.

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